

IS YOUR COMMUNITY READY FOR AGRICULTURE?



GROW • EDUCATE • PROVIDE





GREATER CAPITAL REGION

Food System Assessment

Marissa Peck, Food Assessment Coordinator
Capital Roots

Agriculture in the Greater Capital Region



Top Crop Production in the Greater Capital Region

Product	Acres	% Total Cropland Acreage	Top County by Acres
Forage Land used for all hay & haylage, grass silage & greenchop	277,699	58%	Washington
Corn (Grain)	53,136	11%	Rensselaer
Corn (Silage)	46,077	10%	Washington
Soybeans for beans	8,411	2%	Columbia
Vegetables harvested, all	4,086	0.80%	Rensselaer
Apples	2,179	0.50%	Columbia
Oats for grain	1,537	0.30%	Montgomery
Sweet Corn	730	0.10%	Greene
Cut Christmas Trees	559	0.10%	Fulton

Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, 2012

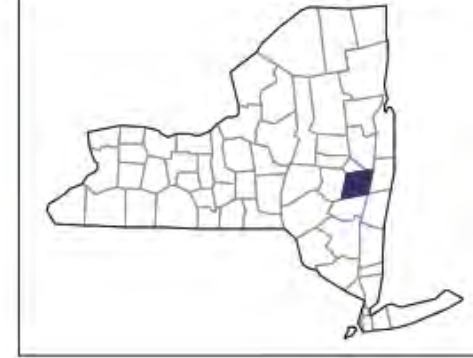
Agriculture in the Greater Capital Region



Top Livestock Production in the Greater Capital Region		
Product	Amount (#)	Top Producer by County
Layers	471,591	Saratoga
Pullets for Laying Flock Replacement	155,106	Saratoga
Cattle/Calves	153,801	Washington
Horses/Ponies	14,056	Saratoga
Sheep/Lambs	13,980	Rensselaer
Goats, All	2,593	Montgomery
Hogs/Pigs	971	Schoharie
Colonies of Bees	590	Greene
Source: USDA Census of Agriculture, 2012		

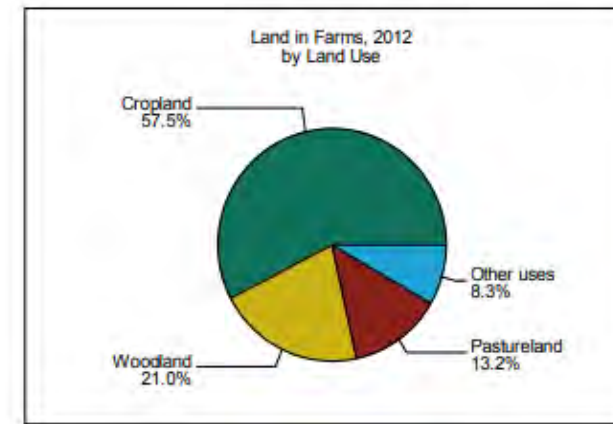
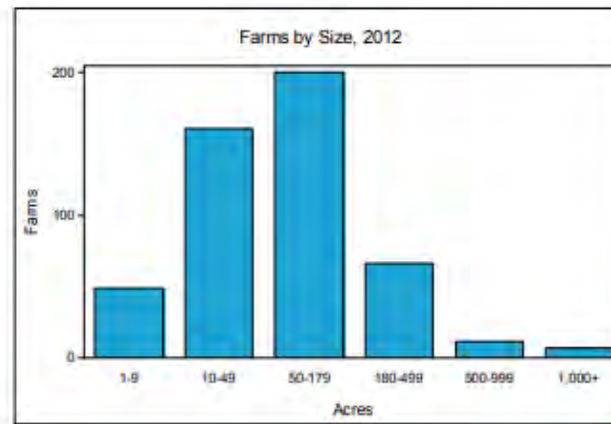
2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

COUNTY PROFILE



Albany County New York

	2012	2007	% change
Number of Farms	494	498	- 1
Land in Farms	63,394 acres	61,030 acres	+ 4
Average Size of Farm	128 acres	123 acres	+ 4
Market Value of Products Sold	\$45,957,000	\$22,415,000	+ 105
Crop Sales \$31,072,000 (68 percent)			
Livestock Sales \$14,884,000 (32 percent)			
Average Per Farm	\$93,029	\$45,010	+ 107
Government Payments	\$384,000	\$270,000	+ 42
Average Per Farm Receiving Payments	\$4,622	\$2,572	+ 80



Albany County – New York

Ranked items among the 62 state counties and 3,079 U.S. counties, 2012

Item	Quantity	State Rank	Universe ¹	U.S. Rank	Universe ¹
MARKET VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SOLD (\$1,000)					
Total value of agricultural products sold	45,957	41	62	1,833	3,077
Value of crops including nursery and greenhouse	31,072	25	60	1,459	3,072
Value of livestock, poultry, and their products	14,884	43	61	1,854	3,076
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	1,983	42	54	2,059	2,926
Tobacco	-	-	-	-	436
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	-	-	635
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	2,655	30	59	530	2,802
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	742	30	58	566	2,724
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	21,856	4	60	136	2,678
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	204	9	53	154	1,530
Other crops and hay	3,633	34	55	816	3,049
Poultry and eggs	103	33	57	1,389	3,013
Cattle and calves	7,273	23	55	1,541	3,056
Milk from cows	5,239	44	52	701	2,038
Hogs and pigs	(D)	(D)	54	(D)	2,827
Sheep, goats, wool, mohair, and milk	145	34	56	1,050	2,988
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	1,994	8	59	93	3,011
Aquaculture	(D)	26	33	(D)	1,368
Other animals and other animal products	78	43	59	1,230	2,924
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage-land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	24,768	33	55	771	3,057
Corn for grain	3,205	41	54	1,564	2,638
Corn for silage	1,761	43	52	851	2,237
Vegetables harvested, all	748	31	59	568	2,801
Oats for grain	349	33	50	669	1,825
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	9,765	38	56	1,946	3,063
Layers	3,198	36	59	1,007	3,040
Horses and ponies	1,433	27	60	773	3,072
Sheep and lambs	1,138	29	56	789	2,897
Broilers and other meat-type chickens	901	37	54	994	2,723

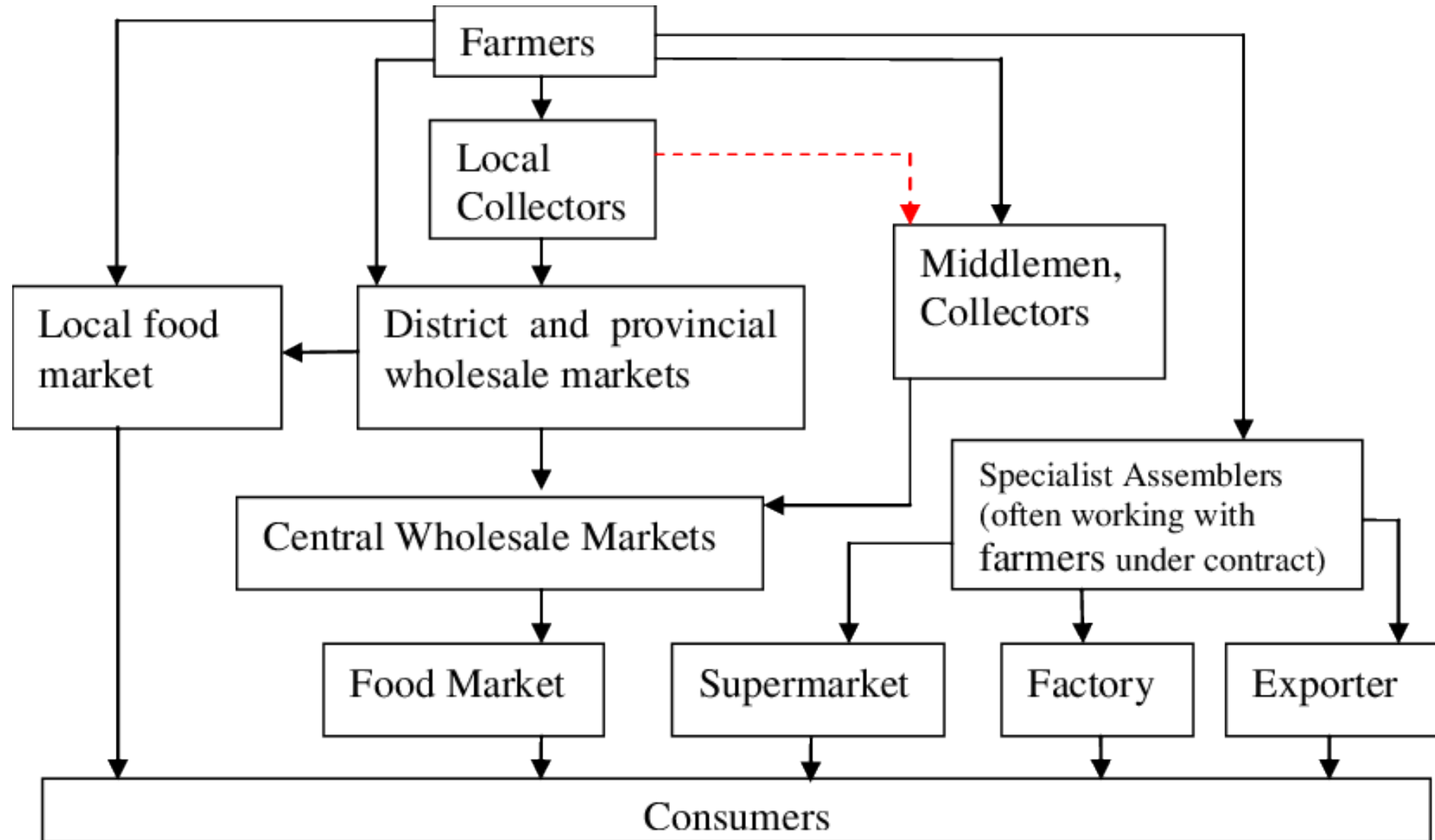
Other County Highlights, 2012

Economic Characteristics	Quantity	Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Farms by value of sales:		Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Less than \$1,000	148	Farming	230
\$1,000 to \$2,499	34	Other	264
\$2,500 to \$4,999	54	Principal operators by sex:	
\$5,000 to \$9,999	69	Male	350
\$10,000 to \$19,999	64	Female	144
\$20,000 to \$24,999	20	Average age of principal operator (years)	
\$25,000 to \$39,999	33		60.2
\$40,000 to \$49,999	11	All operators by race ² :	
\$50,000 to \$99,999	20	American Indian or Alaska Native	-
\$100,000 to \$249,999	12	Asian	2
\$250,000 to \$499,999	12	Black or African American	-
\$500,000 or more	17	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Total farm production expenses (\$1,000)	43,227	White	746
Average per farm (\$)	87,504	More than one race	9
Net cash farm income of operation (\$1,000)	6,055	All operators of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin ²	
Average per farm (\$)	12,258		4

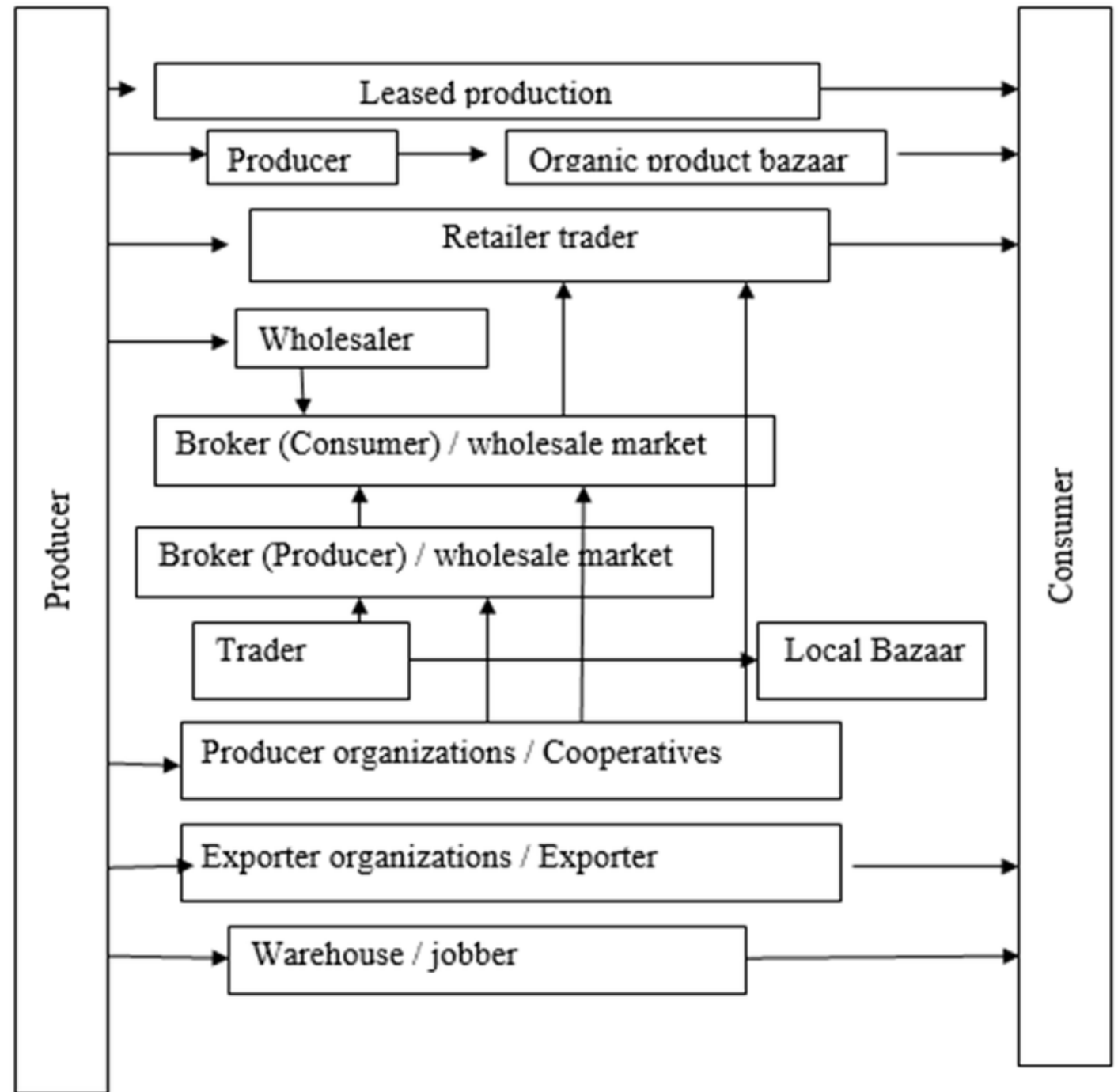
See "Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series" for complete footnotes, explanations, definitions, and methodology.

- Represents zero. (D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Regional Market Channels



Regional Market Channels



Regional Market Channels

Direct to Consumer Markets → farmers markets (NYC and local), farm stand, on-farm sales, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Direct to Buyer → restaurants, retail stores, processor, and institutions

Regional Wholesale Markets → Capital District Regional Produce Market in Menands

Distributors → local or national companies, many require GAP audit

Regional Food Hubs → for-profit or non-profit, local or downstate markets

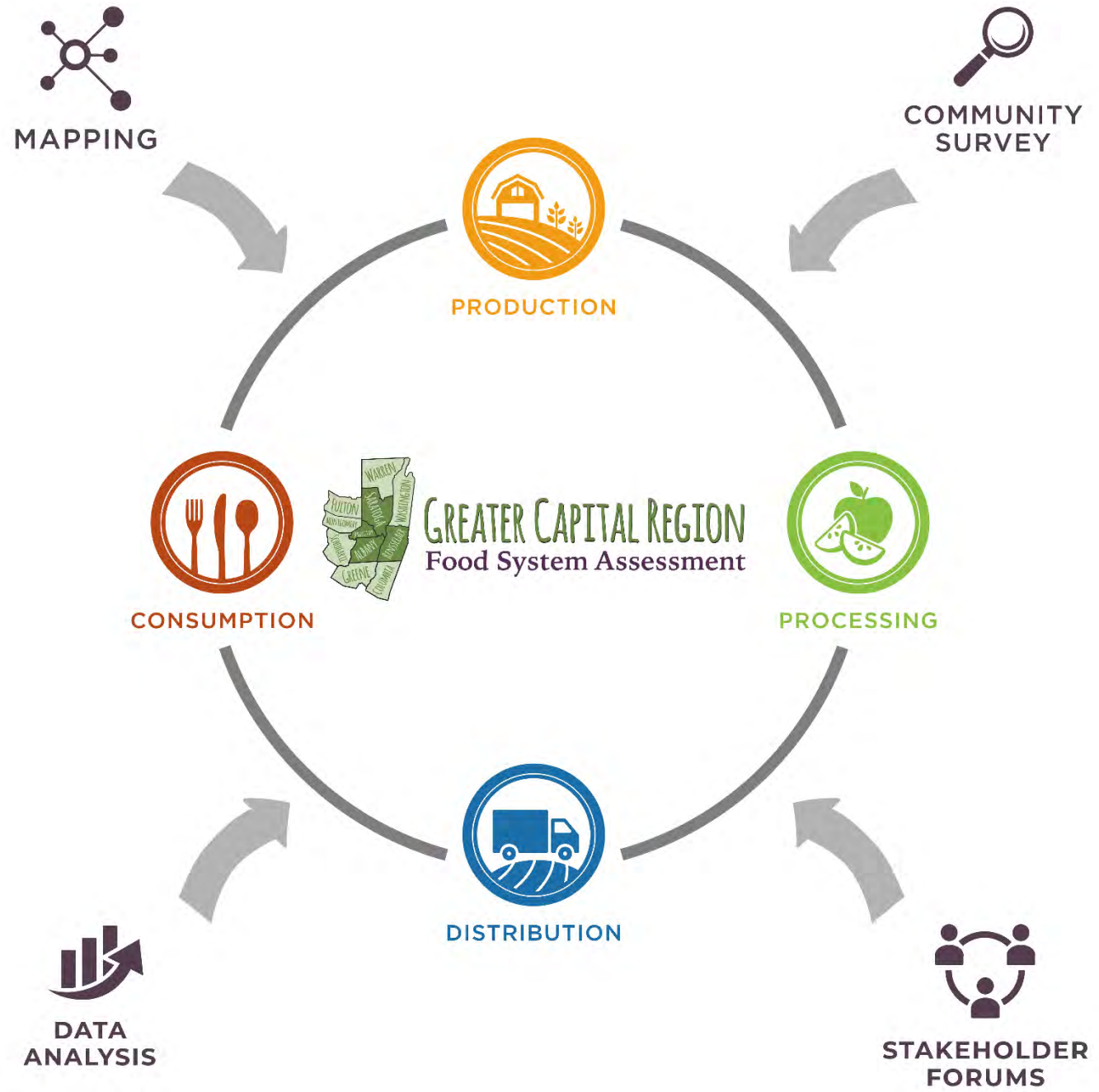
Some Activities Supporting Local Food Production

Food Processing/Manufacturing → large corporations, commercial kitchens

Craft Beverage → specialty grain and hops production, farm breweries

Agritourism → agri-tourism corridors

Farm to School





Amy Klein, CEO

Capital Roots

from Community Gardens to the Urban Grow Center

Mission: to nourish healthy communities by providing access to fresh food and green spaces for all

VEGGIE MOBILE®
Produce Aisle On Wheels

VEGGIE MOBILE® SPROUT
Farm Stand On Wheels

VIRTUAL VEGGIE MOBILE®
Online Farmer's Market

HEALTHY STORES
Fresh Food Fast

SQUASH HUNGER
Fresh Food For All

FARM TO SCHOOL
Local Food for Local Kids

COMMUNITY GARDENS
Growing Healthy Communities

TASTE GOOD SERIES
Nurturing Healthy Lifestyles

URBAN GREENING
Planting Green Communities

VEGGIE Rx
Prescribing Healthy Foods

PRODUCE PROJECT
Youth-Powered Urban Farm

SMART VENDING
Healthy Snacks To Go

HEALTHY STREETS
Safe Routes to Walk & Bike

Programs that Distribute Food

VEGGIE MOBILE®
Produce Aisle On Wheels

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HEALTHY STORES
Fresh Food Fast

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Local Food for Local Kids

*Programs that use food
to help build community*

Programs that Distribute Food

Programs that use food to help build community

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Growing Healthy Communities

PRODUCE PROJECT

Youth-Powered Urban Farm

TASTE GOOD SERIES

Nurturing Healthy Lifestyles

SMART VENDING

Healthy Snacks To Go

URBAN GREENING

Planting Green Communities

VEGGIE R_x

Prescribing Healthy Foods

HEALTHY STREETS

Safe Routes to Walk & Bike

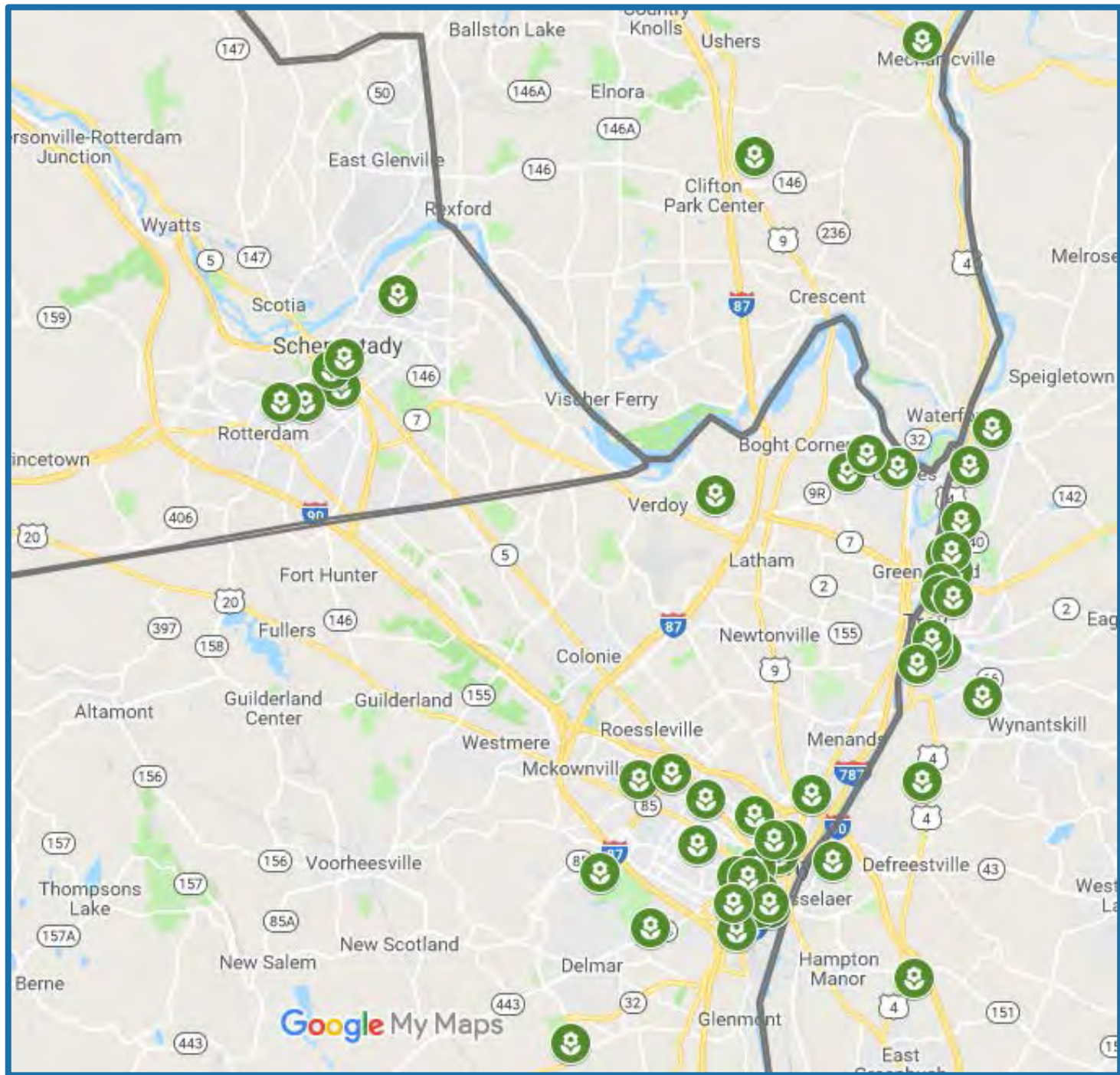
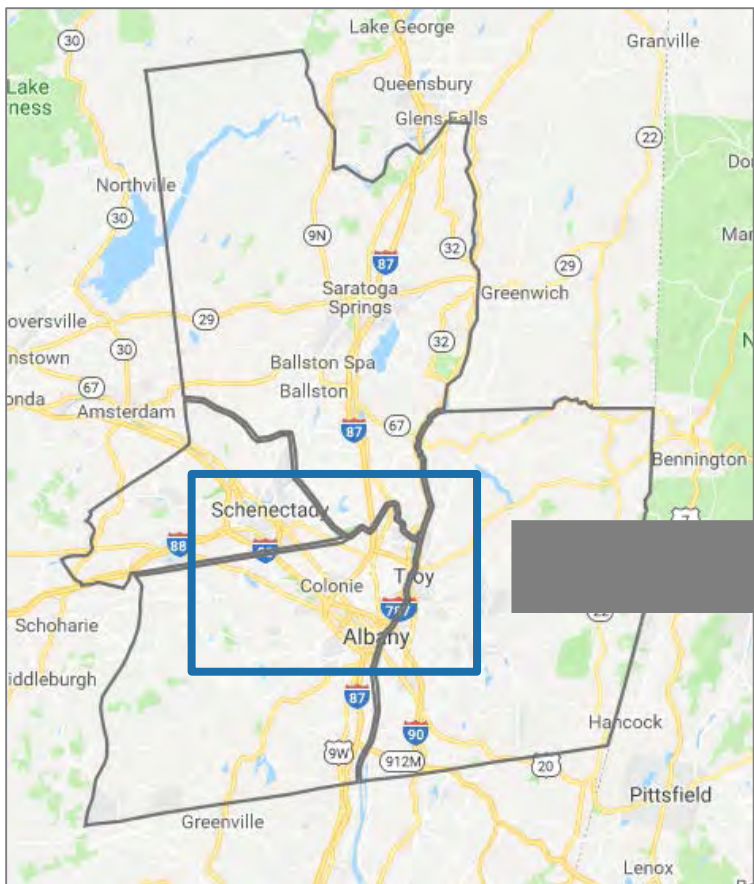
COMMUNITY GARDENS

Growing Healthy Communities



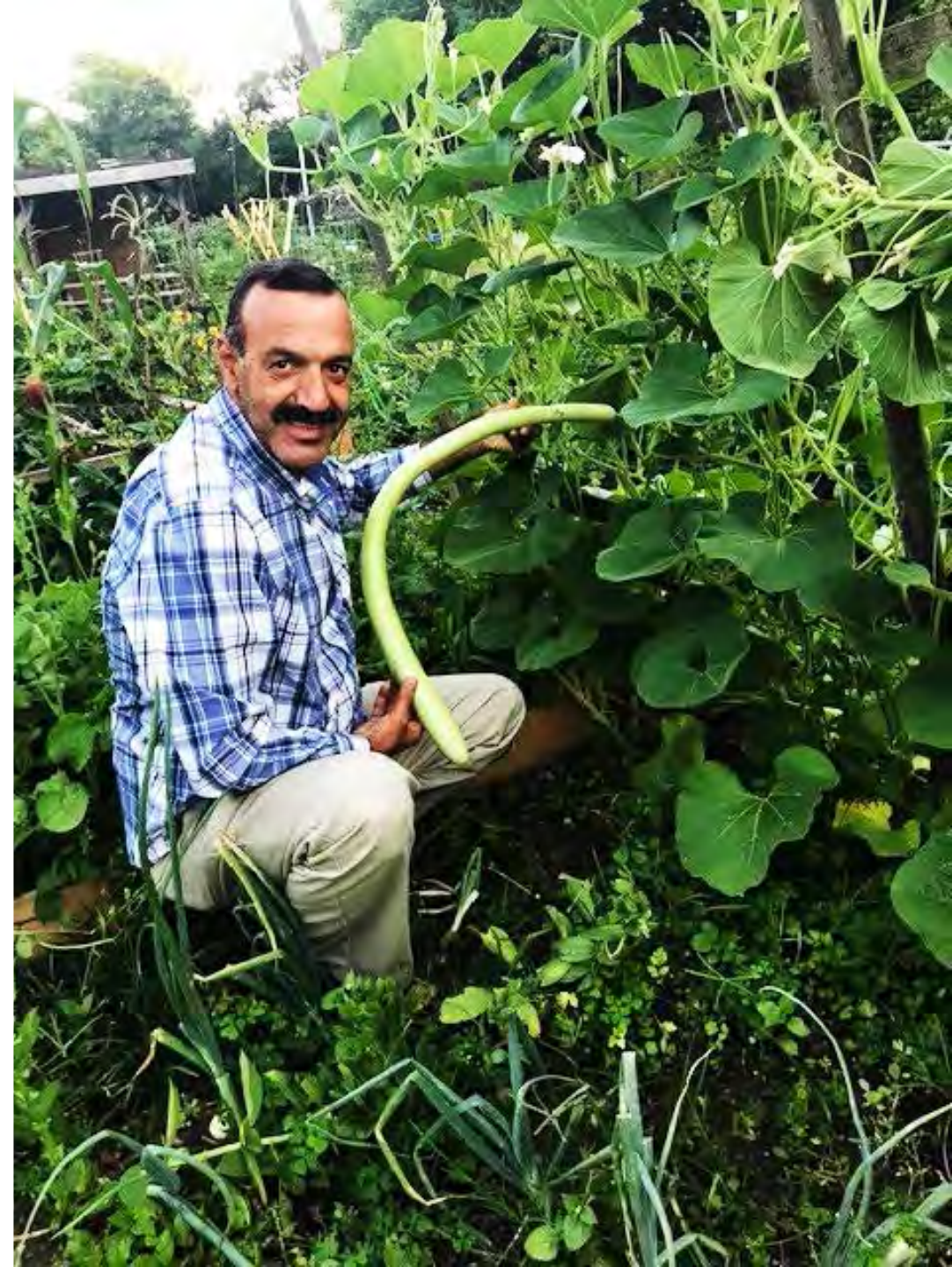
55 community gardens in four counties

Community Garden Locations



URBAN LAND TRUST







Year-round youth job readiness program based on our urban farm in Troy.

Students grow and sell produce at two markets building resumes and life skills.

They receive a stipend, school credit and food share for their work.









URBAN GROW CENTER

Fresh Food At Work













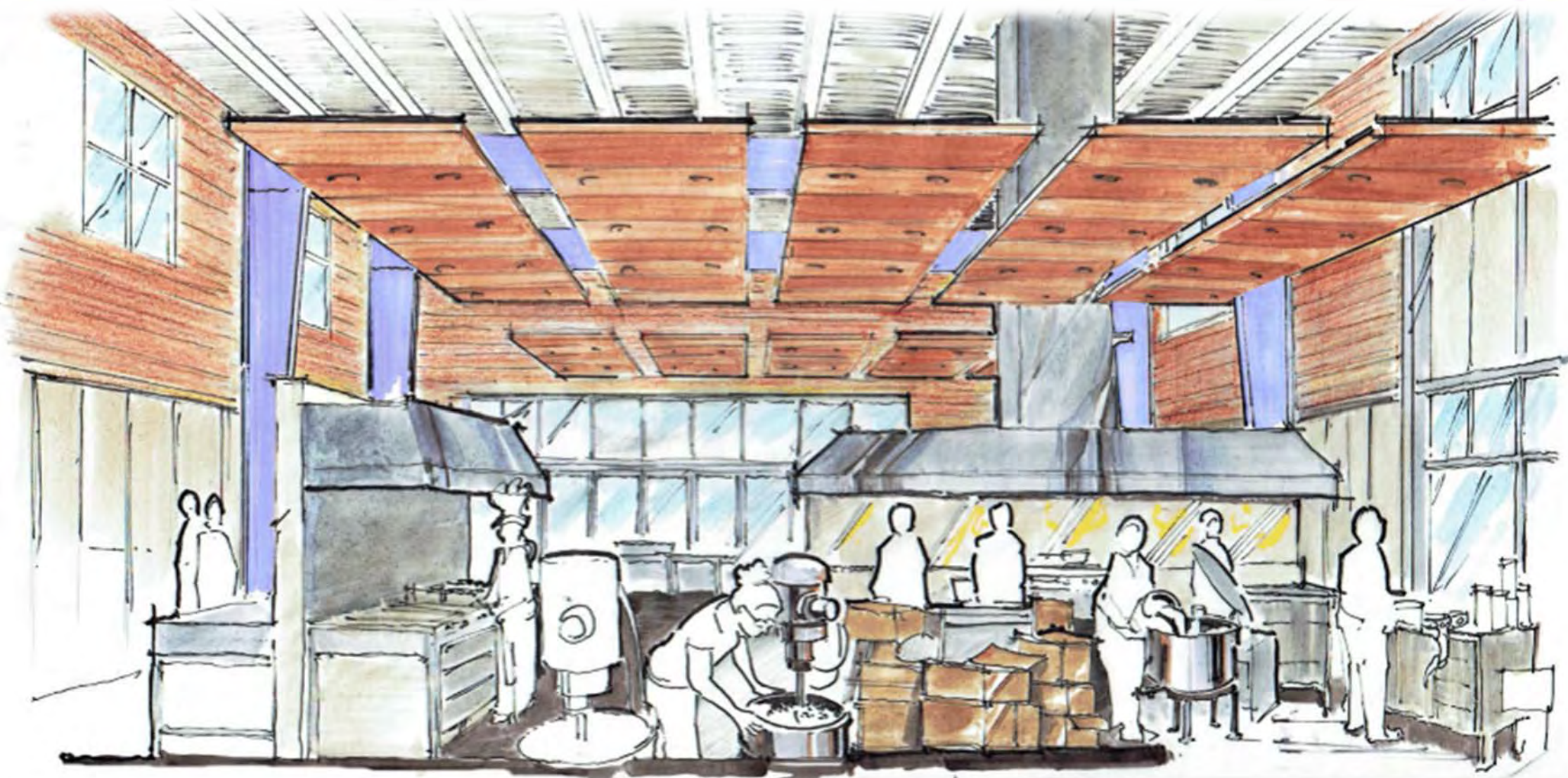
Two **HYDROPONIC GREENHOUSES** using controlled-environment agriculture to support year-round food production and an adult job-readiness program based on Capital Roots' successful Produce Project youth training model, helping the region's long-term unemployed not only gain, but retain jobs. AND one **TRADITIONAL GREENHOUSE** to be used for community education, growing plants for programs and sales, while supporting community agriculture.





A 24/7 **INCUBATOR KITCHEN** to develop, launch and support local food-based business, using our network of farmers and partners to provide entrepreneurs with the supplies, training and markets for lasting success.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH





An **EXPANDED FOOD HUB** with the highest level of food safety necessary to serve institutional customers, especially schools, with products from local farms.



A street-level **PRODUCE MARKET** to better meet the needs of the community. This stand-alone market, with a broader range of offerings, longer hours and higher visibility, lets all community members know the market is for them.



The nearly two-acre campus includes the eastern side of River Street's 500-block which provides a unique opportunity to create a **MODEL CITY BLOCK**. Working with partners such as CDTA, National Grid and the City of Troy, we can employ traffic calming methods to ease mass transit, provide space for green infrastructure, retain parking and encourage biking and walkability.



Indian Ladder Farms

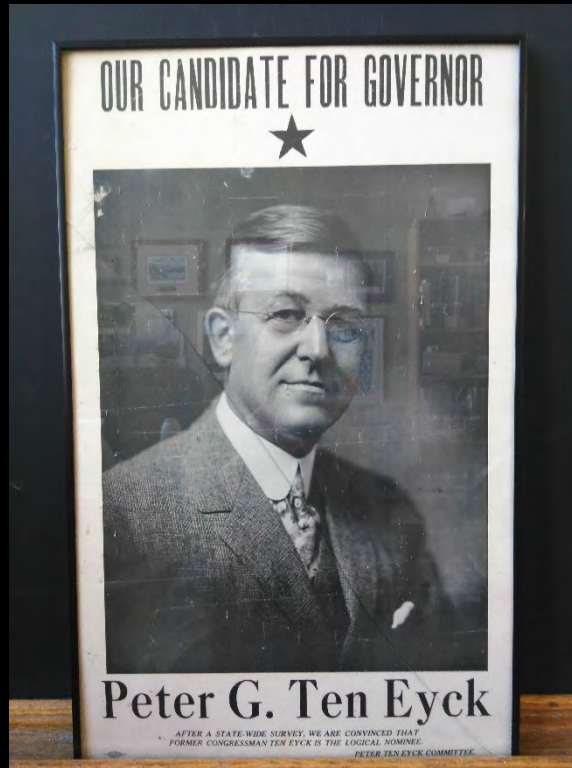
Altamont, New York



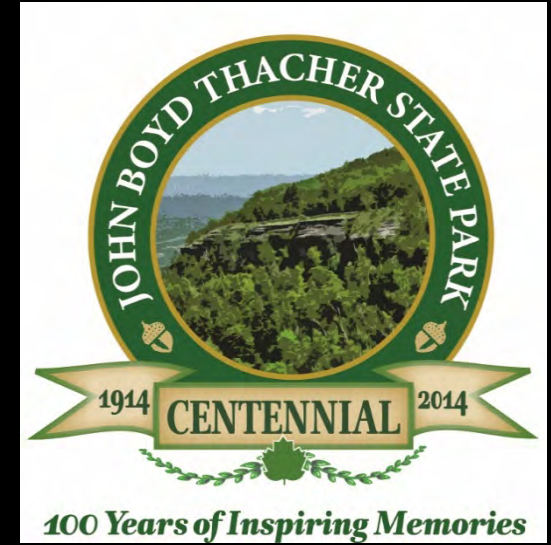
Made possible by many generations, many families and individuals over many years, in fact 100 years...

Indian Ladder Farms was founded in 1916 by Peter G. Ten Eyck



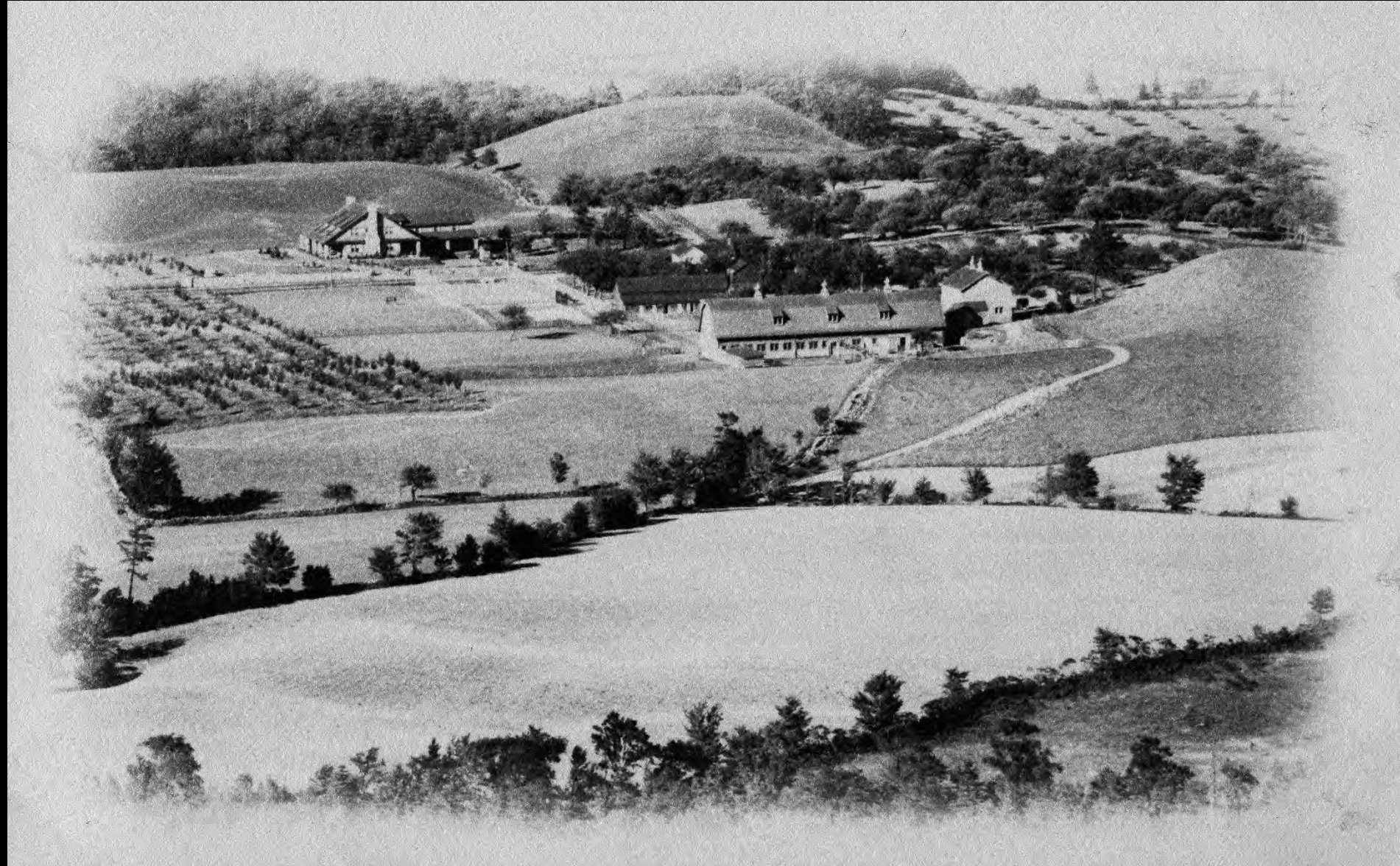
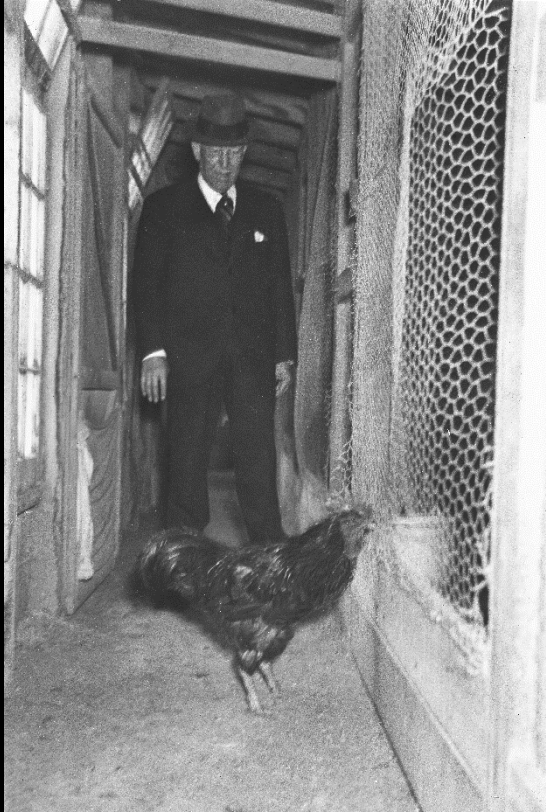


Named for a local landmark, the Indian Ladder





A Working Dairy Farm & Orchard





Dairy Barn Burned 1949

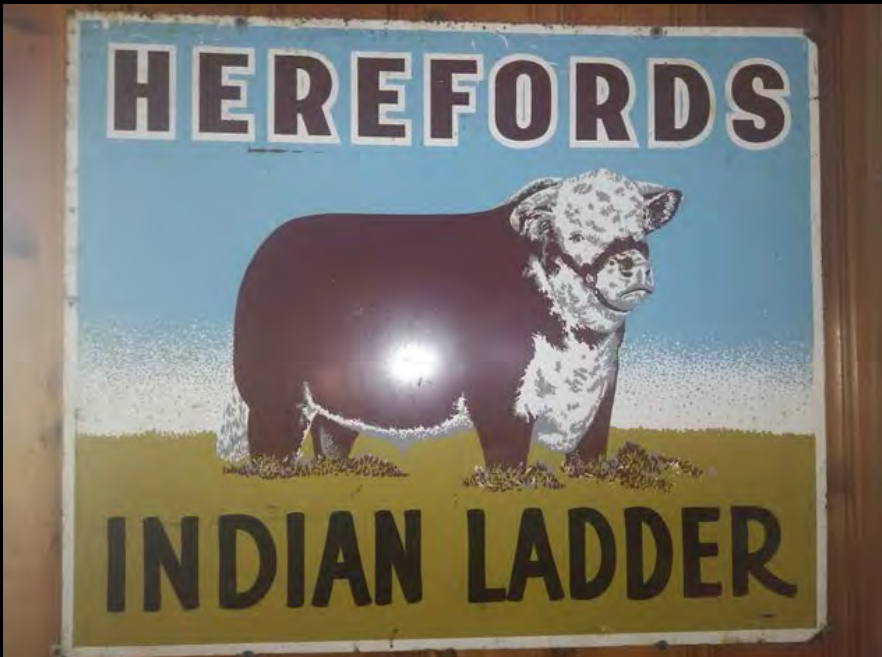




Peter G. D. Ten Eyck

The Next Generation: Peter G. D. Ten Eyck

Beef, Wholesale Apples, Pears, Even a Gas Station



Generation #3



Peter G. Ten Eyck II



Indian Ladder Farms Opens to the Public



The
Fourth
Generation

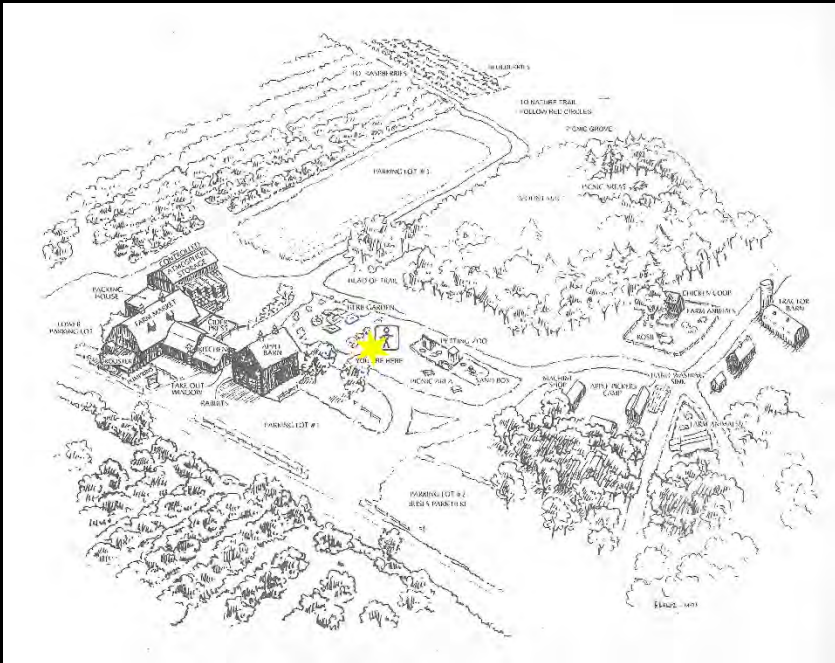


The New York Times

“Personally, I wouldn’t stand in line if they were waving \$100 bills,” Ten Eyck said as visitors packed the majestic orchards and waited 90 minutes to buy hot cider doughnuts that filled the air with a sugary smell.” —Peter Ten Eyck II



Another round of change.....



Indian Ladder Farms is Permanently Protected with a Conservation Easement in 2003



One thing leads to another: How a countertop donut robot became a full kitchen



Indian Ladder Farms Retail Market



Farm Animals: Good, The Bad & The Ugly



From March Bunny Madness to Baby Animal Days & Mother's Day— The Evolution of a Springtime Special Event



We also do children's birthday parties but apparently have never take a photo of one so you can look at this picture of chickens eating birthday cake while I describe what we do.



The Barn School: In the beginning....



Weddings



And now for something
completely different.....



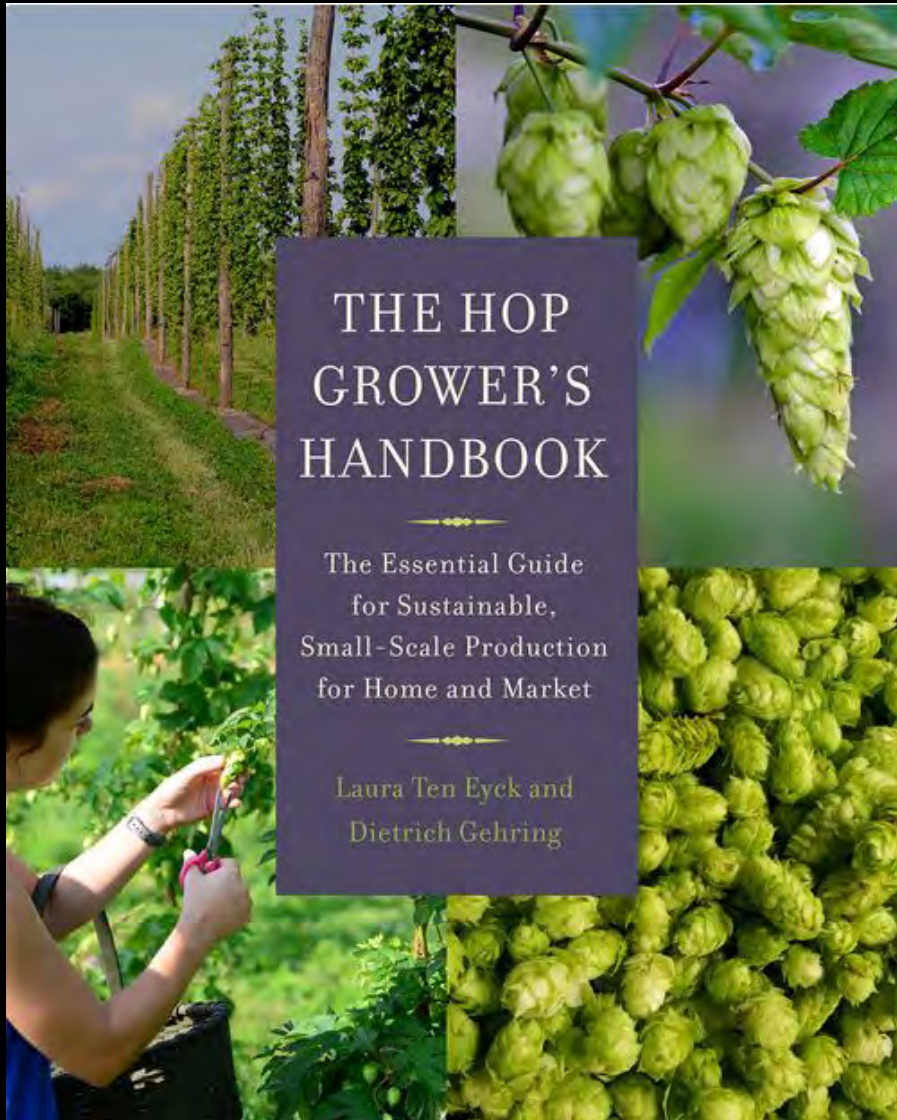
Apple Harvest is Our Busy Season— Apparently We Don't Have Time to Take Many Pictures



Indian Ladder Farms Does Christmas



Always trying something new....





Hemp



Indian Ladder Farms—The Fifth Generation



The End



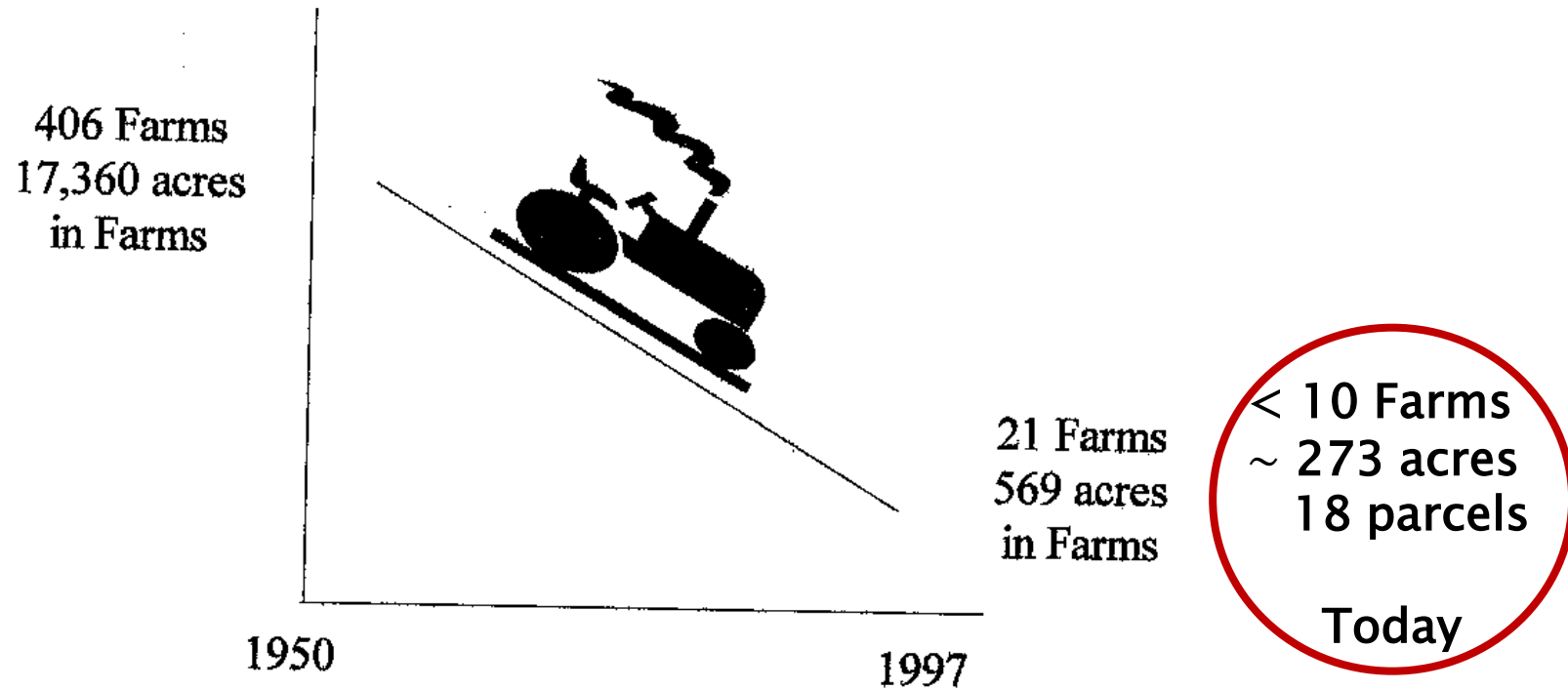
Is Your Town Planning for Agriculture?

*Establishing and Implementing Local Public
Policy to Support and Protect Agriculture*

Jeff Kehoe 518-457-4626
Division of Land and Water Resources:
Agriculture Protection Unit



“Agriculture: If you ignore it, it will go away.”

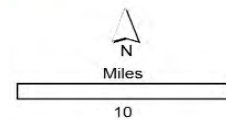


Rockland County Agriculture
1950 - 1997

Capital District AGRICULTURAL LAND



Tax parcels classified
as Agricultural by local
assessors for 2013.



2017 USDA Ag. Census

<https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/>

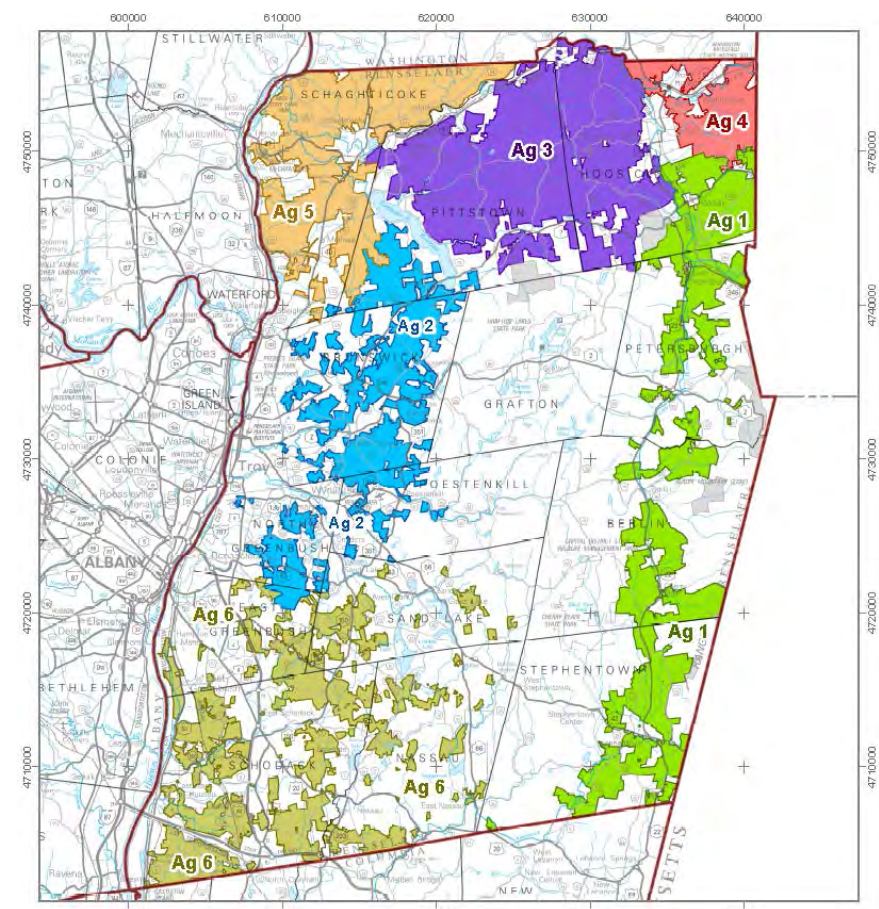
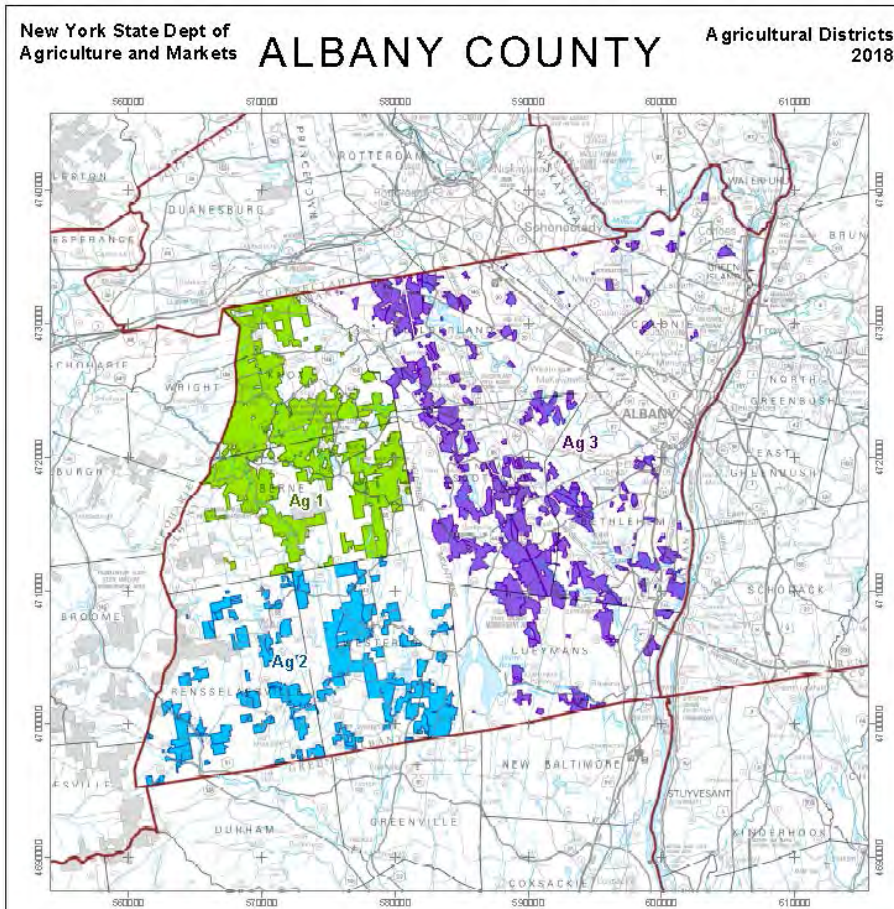
- On-farm Direct Sales for 2017:
5,697 NY Farms sold **\$223M**
- Institutions Food Hubs & Retail Markets:
1,587 NY Farms sold **\$316M**
- value-added sales:
1,977 farms sold **\$182M**
- NY net decrease of 657 farms (6.7%)
acres of farmland decreased by 112,250 (6.2%)

Agricultural Districts

How do Ag Districts help local planners make good land use decisions to protect agriculture?

- Identifies concentrations of agricultural resources
- Help Town Boards craft local zoning to accommodate agricultural practices and activities
- Shows where to limit sewer/water

County Agricultural Districts



Is Your Town Planning For Agriculture?

Does your Town...

...have a vision for Agriculture?

...identify areas where it wants to protect agriculture?

...have a strategy for protecting its best farmland? (*Tools in the Toolbox*)

Prioritized Farmland

Appendix

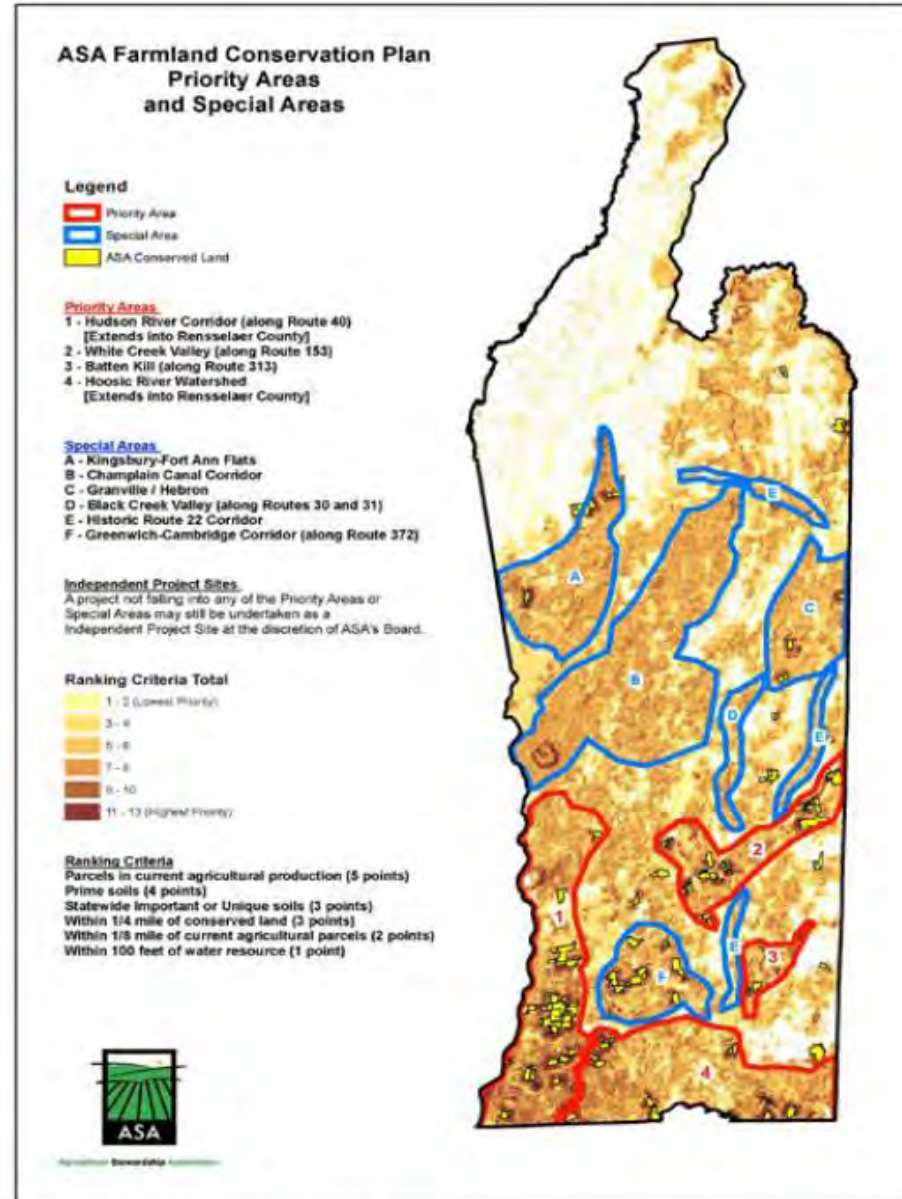


Figure 21 Map of Farmland Ranking Criteria

Is Your Town Planning For Agriculture?

Does your Town have concerns about...

- **Agri-Tourism**

(Tourism initiatives that promote agriculture)

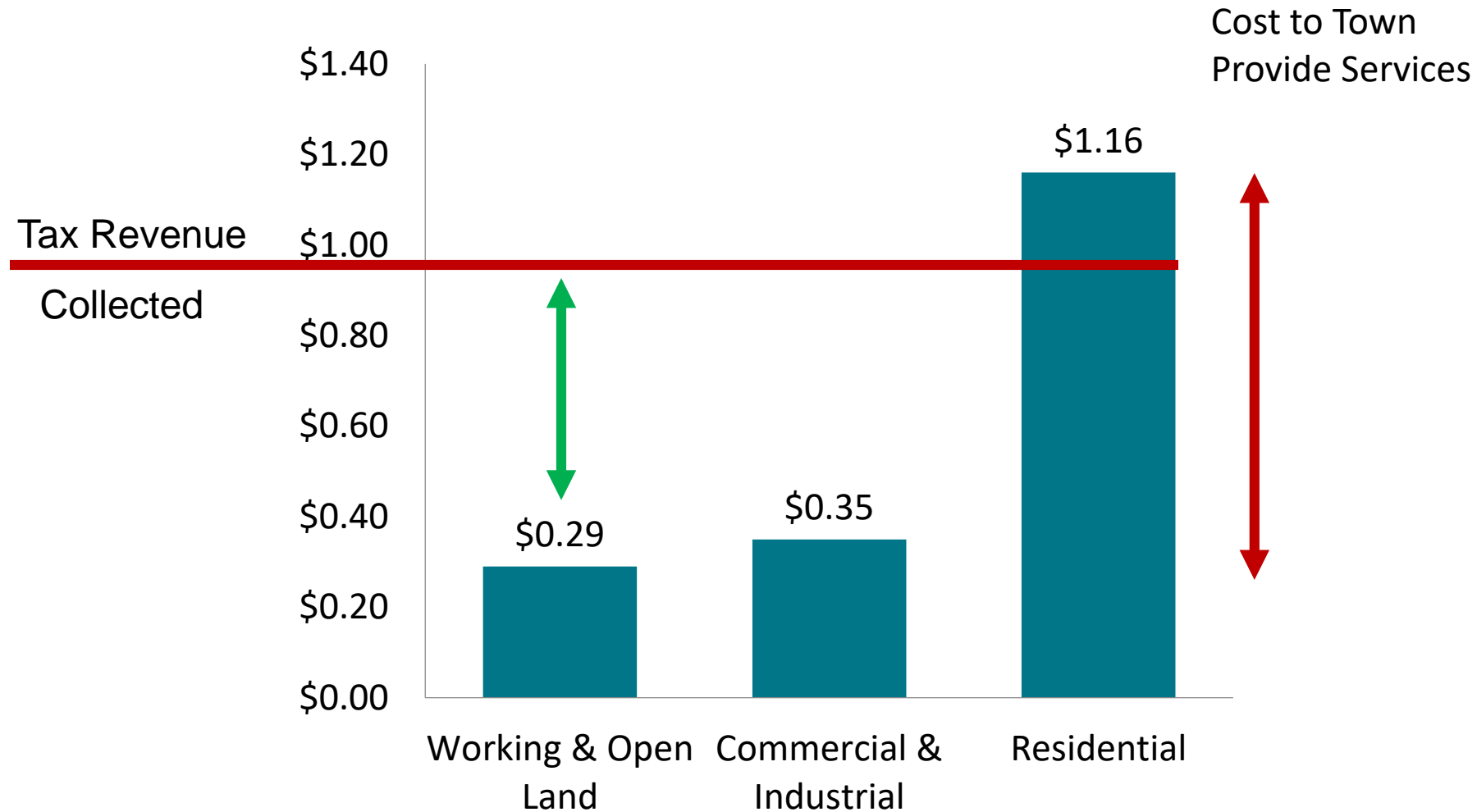
- **Industrial Scale Solar Arrays**

(NYS Solar Guidebook: NYSERDA.ny.gov)

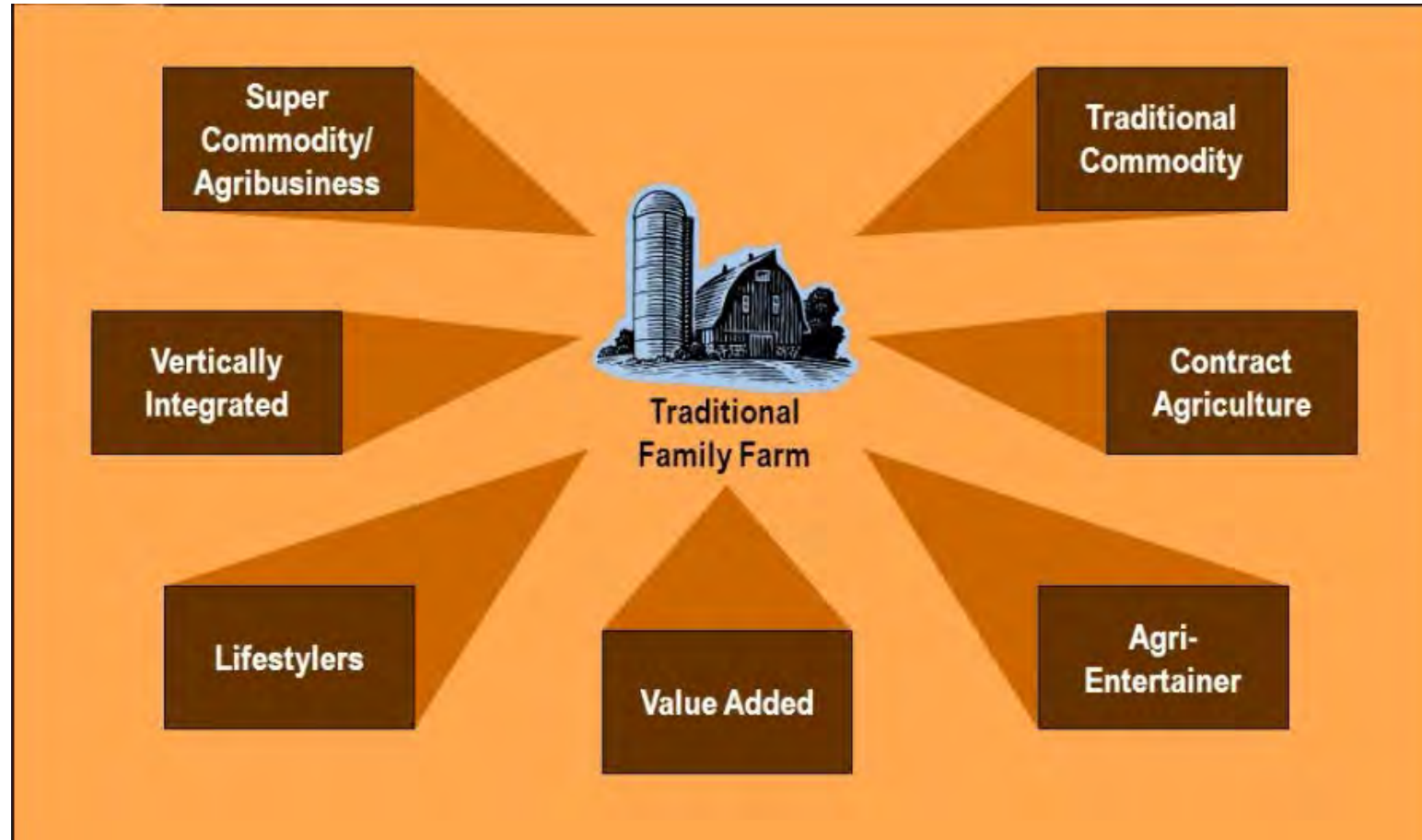
- **Farm Brewery/Distillery/Winery**

(State Liquor Authority: ABC Laws)

Cost of Community Services



Agricultural Business Models



Ag & Farmland Protection Plan

All Towns Eligible!

- Up to **\$25K** per Town

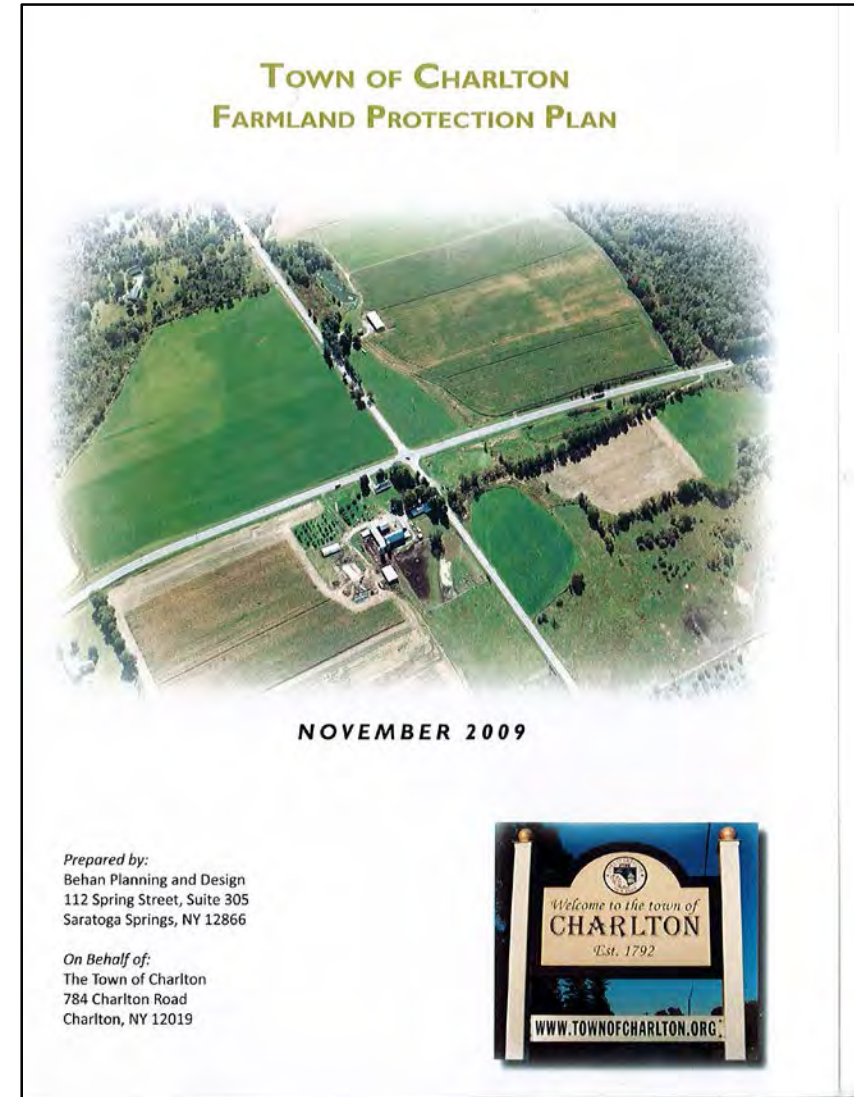
\$1,700 Cash Match

\$6,700 In-Kind contributions from..

*AFPB, SWCD, CCE, NRCS, Your County,
Land Trusts, Farm Bureau, Ag Schools...*

Capitol District Ag. Plans:

*Ballston, Bethlehem, Charlton, Chatham,
Granville, Hartford, Hoosick, Malta, Milton,
Moreau,*



Prepared by:
Behan Planning and Design
112 Spring Street, Suite 305
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

On Behalf of:
The Town of Charlton
784 Charlton Road
Charlton, NY 12019



Why Agricultural Protection Plans?

- Poor or minimal planning has led to a significant loss of active farmland.
- Traditional zoning tools do not protect agriculture
- Multiple mechanisms are needed to protect Ag.
- Sewer/water extensions into productive farmland are a *major* threat to farm viability.
- Ag protection is most effective locally... How?

Simple Local Actions

- Update Agriculture Related Definitions
- Adopt a Right to Farm Law (*local conflict mediation*)
- Agricultural Zoning (*limit growth inducing land uses*)
- Ag Vision Statement
- Include Ag in Comp Plan
- Lateral Restrictions
- Ag Data/ Ag Disclosure
- Draft an Ag Plan!



Ag Protection Planning Tools

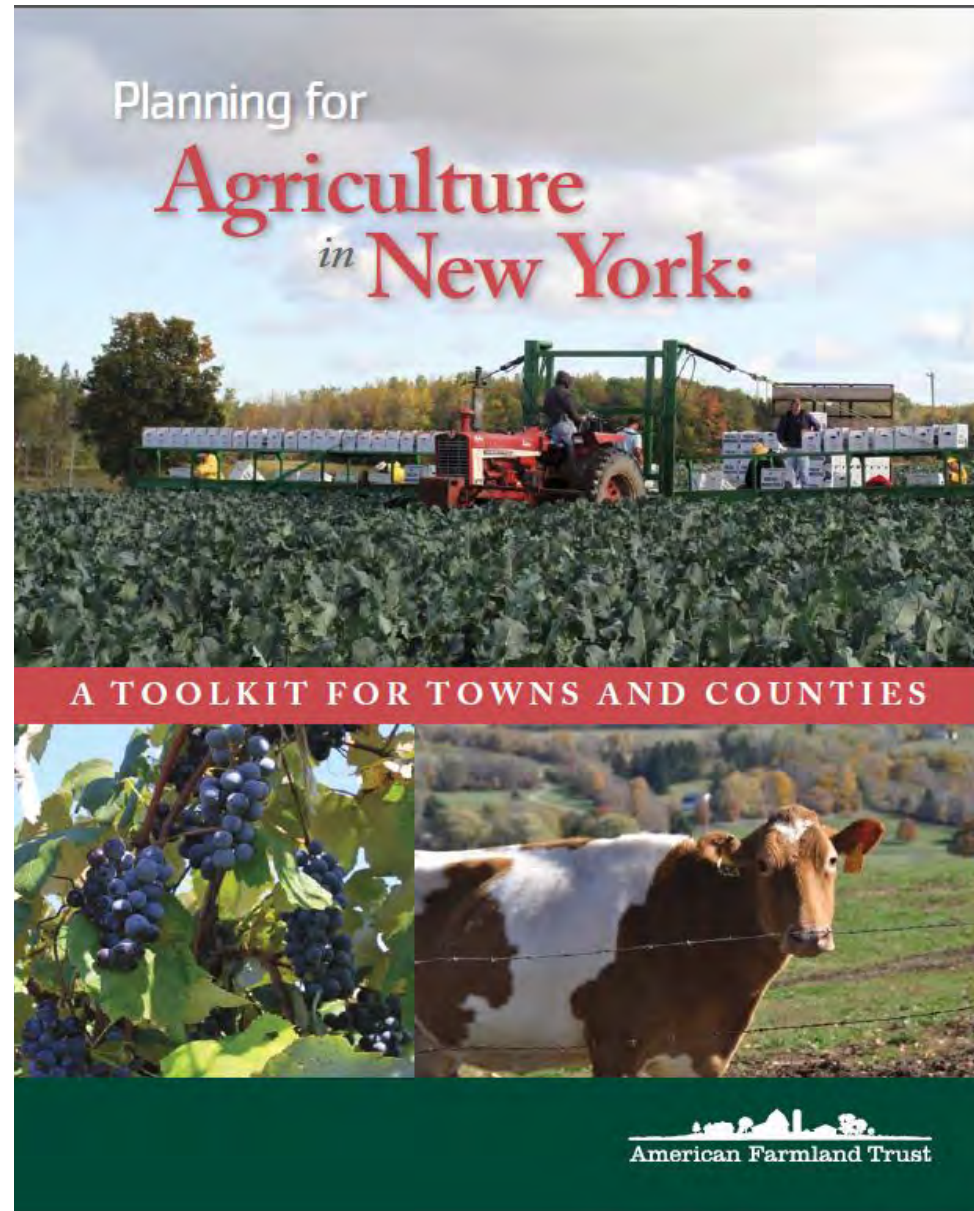
- Ag Protection Overlay District (*Warwick, NY: below*)
- Purchase/ Transfer/ Lease of Development Rights
- Cluster Development/ Conservation Design *for Agriculture*
- Infill Development / Smart Growth / Form Based Code?




Emerging Topics in Ag Protection

- New, Young and Beginning Farmers
- Farmland Access/ Affordability
- Farm Friendly Local Laws
- Climate Resilient Farming
- Urban Agriculture
- Farm to Schools/ Institutions (*www.finyys.com*)
- Access to Markets (*Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Rochester*)
- Watershed Planning (*AEM Program via SWCD's*)
- Local “Ag Resource Guides”

www.farmlandinfo.org





Thank You!

Any Questions?

Jeff Kehoe (518) 457-4626
Ag Protection Planner | Ag Districts Manager
jeffrey.kehoe@agriculture.ny.gov

