

Organization and Service Resources

Cornell Cooperative Extension Tompkins County

615 Willow Avenue

Ithaca, NY 14850

Ph. (607) 272-2292

<http://ccetompkins.org/>

Tompkins County Soil & Water Conservation District

170 Bostwick Road

Ithaca, NY 14850

Phone: (607) 257-2340

<https://www2.tompkinscountyny.gov/swcd>

Tompkins County Tourism

<https://tompkinscountyny.gov/tourism>

Tompkins County Farm Bureau

<https://www.nyfb.org/about/county-farm-bureau/tompkins-county>

New York Farm Bureau

<https://www.nyfb.org/advocacy/legislative-affairs/priority-issues>

USDA Ithaca Service Center

225 S. Fulton St.

Ithaca, Y 14580

(607) 257-2737N

[Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

USDA Cortland Service Center

1 North Main St.

Cortland, NY 13045

(607) 753-0851 ext 2

[Farm Service Agency](#) [Rural Development](#)

Sustainable Tompkins

309 N. Aurora St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 272-1720

<https://sustainabletompkins.org/>

Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY)

834 Upper Front Street

Binghamton, NY 13905

Phone: 607-724-9851

<https://nofany.org/>

These resources were aggregated as part of Cornell Cooperative Extension's 2020 Agricultural Benchmarking Study, funded through a grant by the Park Foundation. For more information or to read case studies visit our website at

Education/Networks/Advocacy Resources

National Young Farmers Coalition

364 Warren St.

Hudson, NY 12534

(518) 643-3564 or (866) 926-0438

<https://www.youngfarmers.org/>

Central NY Chapter, Ithaca, NY www.facebook.com/CNYYoungFarmers/

The National Young Farmers Coalition is a national advocacy network of young farmers fighting for the future of agriculture.

Cornell Small Farms Programs

15A Plant Science

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY 14853

(607) 255-9277 <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/about/>

Cornell Small Farms Programs foster research, extension, and education projects that support and encourage the sustainability of diverse, thriving small farms.

[Guide to Farming in NY](#) This guide consists of a series of individual fact sheets addressing topics pertinent to planning and operating a farm business. It is not enterprise specific. Rather it addresses topics common to operating a farm business in New York State. The fact sheets are meant to be brief and to the point. Additional details can be found via the web links provided or by calling offices listed. The guide is meant to be a resource for both beginning and established farmers. [How to Use this Guide](#) [Multiple Resource Farming Guides](#)

Groundswell Center

225 S Fulton Street

Ithaca, NY 14851

(607) 319-5095

[Groundswell Center](#) for Local Food & Farming is training the next generation of sustainable farmers in the Finger Lakes.

The Learning Farm

272 Enfield Falls Rd.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(707) 570-5178

[The Learning Farm](#) provides children and families a place that fosters an opportunity to learn and understand where food comes from.

Three Swallows Farm/The Youth Farm Project

23 Nelson Rd.

Ithaca, NY 14850

email: youthfarmproject@gmail.com

[The Youth Farm Project](#) empowers from diverse social and economic backgrounds as essential participants in building equitable local food communities.

Access to Farmland Resources

[Finger Lakes LandLink](#)

Finger Lakes LandLink offers a free searchable database of land and land seeker listings.

[Farmland for a New Generation New York](#)

American Farmland Trust

112 Spring St, Suite 207

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

(518) 581-0078 or 1-844-737-6506 (toll free number)

Farmland for a New Generation New York helps farmers seeking land and landowners wanting to keep their land in farming.

[Cornell Small Farms Program: Farming Guide: Finding a Farm to Buy or Lease](#)

[Khuba International](#)

272 Enfield Falls Rd.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(707) 570-5178

Khuba's **[Quarter Acre For the People](#)** project provides food production opportunities to families of African and/or Indigenous ancestry as well as refugee families who have historically been displaced from land.

Marketing Resources

Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA)

One Sugarloaf Street

South Deerfield, MA 01373

Tel: 413-665-7100

[CISA Resources for farmers in marketing local foods](#)

MeatSuite

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County provides **[MeatSuite](#)** to farmers and consumers in New York as a free service. Meat Suite is a website designed to help consumers in NY and NC find locally produced, high quality meats in bulk.

Cornell Small Farms Programs

15A Plant Science

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[Cornell Small Farms Program: Guide to Farming in NY \(includes Marketing Resources\)](#)

Municipal Resources:

Resources for Comprehensive Planning/Land Use Regulations

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets - Guidelines for Review of Local Zoning and Planning Laws

www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/agsservices/guidancedocuments/305-aZoningGuidelines.pdf

New York State Department of State - Guide to Planning and Zoning Laws (James A. Coon Local Government Technical Series)

www.dos.ny.gov/lg/publications/Guide_to_planning_and_zoning_laws.pdf

New York State Local Open Space Planning Guide

https://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/publications/Local_Open_Space_Planning_Guide.pdf

American Farmland Trust (AFT) Planning for Agriculture in New York

American Farmland Trust New York is a conservation organization dedicated to protecting farmland from poorly planned development, promoting environmental stewardship on farms, and strengthening the economic viability of agriculture. AFT offers a resource: [Planning for Agriculture in New York: A Toolkit for Towns and Counties](#).

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/>

Local & State Resources for Agricultural Business and Farmland Protection

Tompkins County Planning Department

121 E. Court Street

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 274-5560 <https://tompkinscountyny.gov/planning>

The Department of Planning and Sustainability primarily works to implement the [Tompkins County Comprehensive Plan](#) which presents a long-term vision for the future of the community. Specific considerations for natural resources (Part I) and agricultural resources (Part II) are identified in the [Tompkins County Conservation Plan](#). This plan investigates the issues facing local agriculture and presents a coordinated, comprehensive approach to farmland protection by listing specific strategies to conserve critical agricultural land within the County's six designated Agricultural Resource Focus Areas (ARFAs). ARFAs are combined with *Locally Important Agricultural Areas* (designated by municipal comprehensive or farmland protection plans as areas of highest agricultural worth by local communities)

The [Tompkins County Environmental Management Council \(EMC\)](#) is an official citizen advisory board on local environmental issues (scope includes: to identify problems, propose priorities, and promote coordinated management and public discussion of natural resources).

[Tompkins County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan June 2015](#)

Local & State Resources for Agricultural Business and Farmland Protection continued

Agricultural Farm & Land Protection Tools (as noted in pages 27 through 29 of the Tompkins County Conservation plan)

Municipal Agricultural Protection

- Comprehensive Planning
- Agricultural Districts

NY Ag District Program

<https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/ag-services/dis8/Summary-AgrDistrict-Law.pdf>

New York's Agricultural Districts - Frequently Asked Questions (Brochure)

www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/ag-services/Agricultural_Districts_FAQ.pdf

Local Laws and Agricultural Districts: Guidance for Local Governments and Farmers

www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/ag-services/new305/guidance.pdf

Tompkins County Agricultural District Maps

<https://cugir.library.cornell.edu/catalog/cugir-000051>

<https://geo2.tompkins-co.org/html/?viewer=nrmobile>

- Agricultural Assessment
- Agricultural Zoning
- Right-to-Farm Laws

New York State Right to Farm Law (AML 25AA S. 308)

codes.findlaw.com/ny/agriculture-and-markets-law/agm-sect-308.html

- Infrastructure Planning
- Subdivision Regulations
- Purchase of Development Rights (PDR)

Tompkins County Farmland Protection through Purchase of Development Rights

<https://tompkinscountyny.gov/planning/rural-resources-pdr>

- Transfer of Development Rights (TDR)
- Land Banking

New York State Municipal Planning Grants

American Farmland Trust (New York Regional Office)

Finger Lakes Land Trust

2020 E. Court St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 275-9487

<https://www.fllt.org/>