



## WHAT IS TC ARG?

Tioga County Agricultural Resource Group (ARG) is a group of farmers, agencies, educators, businesses and community members working together to contribute to a thriving rural community by creating and promoting agricultural vitality in Tioga County. Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month from 10:00-11:30am at the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District office (183 Corporate Drive Owego, NY) and are open to the public. For more information, you can contact Danielle Singer [singerd@tiogacountyny.gov](mailto:singerd@tiogacountyny.gov) (607) 972-8009



### Looking Ahead

#### July:

- 11 - TCFB - Regular Meeting
- 15 - FSA Crop Reporting Due
- 21 - Sundaes at the Farm
- 24 - TCARG Meeting (NYFB Presentation)

#### August:

- 6 - FREE admission to Tioga Co Fair for Ag Day
- 7-10 - Tioga Co Fair
- 8 - TCFB - Regular Meeting
- 13 - Pasture Walk
- 28 - TCARG Meeting

#### September:

- 12 - TCFB - Regular Meeting
- 25 - TCARG Meeting - Location CCE HCF

## ARG Agency Spotlight

### Tioga State Bank

TSB is an independently owned and operated, community bank serving the Southern Tier of NY and Northern PA. We are proud to help our community thrive by providing personalized, relationship-banking and innovative financial solutions that help our customers achieve their financial dreams. TSB is celebrating its 160th anniversary this year and looking forward to being a community partner for generations to come.



## ARG Member Spotlight



Kristi K. Snyder  
Tioga County CCE

**How long have you been in your role at CCE. Describe your role in 3 words.**

- I have been on the team here at CCE Tioga for just over 3 months now. My role in a nutshell is "Making it Happen". Supporting Staff, volunteers and our Incubator Farmers at Hilltop Community Farm at all levels, connecting with stakeholders and individuals in the community, finding new opportunities for growth in Tioga County and keeping up on the latest research from Cornell to share locally.

**What do you like most about ARG so far?**

- ARG meetings have helped me make connections both in-person and virtually, increasing our connectivity with other groups with similar goals and avenues to work together.

**What is your favorite vegetable?**

- Summer squash, and the local producing season has arrived!



# ARG NEWS

We continue to work on bringing new opportunities to Tioga County Farmers. Our speakers and discussions in March, April and May have informed us of new possibilities, allowed us to reflect on the current opportunities and engaged us in a new partnership. We have made connections with different Land Trusts to assist any farms interested in conservation easements for farmland protection. **We partnered with American Farmland Trust on an Ag & Markets grant that will put on 2 workshops in each agricultural district this winter** that focus on (1) farmland succession planning and (2) lease agreements/connecting farmers and rural landowners with large ag parcels. As we move into the next half of the year, we plan to continue **exploring farmland protection and discuss economics of agriculture**. And as always, we continue to hold the **annual Sundaes at the Farm Event in July and plan to host free family friend activities all week at the fair**. We hope to see you there!

## Commonly Used Acronyms

- CCE - Cornell Cooperative Extension
- FSA - Farm Service Agency
- NRCS - Natural Resource Conservation Services
- SCD&FC - South Central Dairy & Field Crops Team
- TCARG - Tioga County Ag Resource Group
- TCFB - Tioga County Farm Bureau
- TCSWCD - Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District
- USC - Upper Susquehanna Coalition
- USDA - United States Department of Agriculture

# PORK CHOP BBQ

*August 10th - 3:00 - 5:00pm*

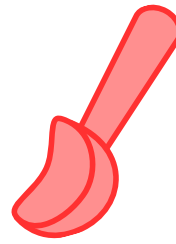


Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon of mouthwatering flavors and community spirit! The eagerly anticipated Pork Chop BBQ is set for 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM. For just \$15.00 per ticket, you can savor delicious, perfectly grilled pork chops while supporting local initiatives. Tickets are on sale now at Tioga SWCD, Ward & Van Scoy, Johnson Pools and Spa, and Home Central in Owego and Candor, as well as Goodrich Auction Service in Newark Valley, and Engelbert Farm Store in Nichols. **Additionally, Farm Bureau, FFA, and 4-H members will be selling tickets at the popular Sundaes at the Farm event and by request.**

For those seeking to contribute more, exciting sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information or to secure your tickets, email Jake Brown at [wmjbrown@gmail.com](mailto:wmjbrown@gmail.com).

But the fun doesn't stop there! Stick around after the BBQ for the **Tioga County Youth Livestock Auction at 6:00 PM**, where you can bid on fresh, locally grown beef, pork, chicken, sheep, and goat. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to **fill your freezer with quality local produce and support young farmers**. See you there for an afternoon of great food, community fun, and local pride!

# The Scoop



SOUTH CENTRAL DAIRY & FIELD CROPS TEAM

**North American MANUREXPO**  
Professionalism in Nutrient Management

**JULY 17-18, 2024**  
AUBURN, NEW YORK

REGISTER BEFORE **JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>**  
FOR EARLY-BIRD PRICES.

REGISTER TODAY AT [manureexpo.com](http://manureexpo.com)

IN COOPERATION WITH:

## All Things Manure Expo

This year's event kicks off July 17th and runs through the 18th at Patterson Farm in Auburn. Experience the thrilling demonstrations and engaging exhibitors of the Expo in the heart of the Finger Lakes region. Tour local facilities to witness the best in manure innovations of the Northeast. See spreaders, agitators, separators and other technology side-by-side - and witness the manure expertise that separates the Manure Expo from every other farm show! The full agenda and registration can be found [here](#).

## 2024 Aurora Farm Field Days

The 2024 Aurora Farm Field Day, hosted by Cornell's Musgrave Research Farm in Aurora, NY, will take place on July 18. This annual event will spotlight advancements in agricultural research and extension efforts, featuring presentations on soil health, crop management, and climate-smart farming practices. It offers an opportunity for farmers, researchers, and agricultural professionals to explore cutting-edge research and practical innovations aimed at enhancing farm productivity and sustainability. Attendees will also engage in field tours, equipment demonstrations, and discussions on emerging agricultural technologies.



"Supporting today's agricultural needs and creating member opportunities for tomorrow through advocacy and education."

Not a Member?  
Join Today!



[nyfb.org](http://nyfb.org)  
1.800.342.4143



When? July 21, 2024

Where? Frisbie Bros Dairy

More info to come. Farmers interested in tabling as part of the farmer's market, organizations interested in providing an agricultural related education booth or businesses interested in sponsoring the event should contact Danielle Singer at [singerd@tiogacountyny.gov](mailto:singerd@tiogacountyny.gov)

# CCE Tioga



# Buzz

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, August 10th, 2024**, and join us at the Tioga County Fair in Owego, NY, for the 57th Annual 4-H Livestock Auction! **Starting at 6 p.m.**, this exciting event offers you the chance to support local 4-H members by purchasing quality-raised steer, poultry, lamb, goat, pig, and rabbit.

Arrive early to meet the 4-H members and their animals, and learn more about their dedication and hard work. Don't miss this opportunity to support the youth in our community and take home some of the finest livestock around!

## Tioga State Bank TELLER

Keep an eye out for more information about the upcoming No Shave November 5K race—it's going to be an event you won't want to miss! We are also thrilled to announce that Tioga State Bank will be opening a new location in Johnson City later this year, so stay tuned for more details. In addition to these exciting developments, Tioga State Bank continues to demonstrate their commitment to our community. They are the biggest contributor to Sundaes at the Farm! And finally, a big congratulations to Tioga State Bank for being awarded a 5-star rating by Bauer Financial, Inc. for an incredible 130 consecutive quarters. This recognition places them among the strongest banks in the nation!

## FARM BUREAU



The Tioga County Farm Bureau meets the second Thursday of each month at 7pm in the Owego Apalachin High School Ag building. Anyone can attend these meetings, you do not have to be a member, the public is always welcome. We are always helping the local FFA, working towards every town in Tioga County having Right to Farm language in their local laws, having a bigger presence at the Tioga County Fair and a host of other events and programs. We have an active role in Sundaes at the Farm event. This takes people, people like you! Come and be a part of Ag in Tioga County. Any questions or comments, thoughts or ideas, contact County President Cub Frisbie - 607-425-2433 or [kfrisbie8@aol.com](mailto:kfrisbie8@aol.com) or County Secretary Marrell Cortright-607-319-6166 or [flywestprim@aol.com](mailto:flywestprim@aol.com).

# CCE



## buy local guide

[Buy Local Food NY](#) is an online platform dedicated to connecting consumers with local farms and food businesses in New York State. The site features a comprehensive directory where users can search for nearby farms, farmers' markets, farm-to-table restaurants, and more. By promoting local food systems, the platform aims to support sustainable agriculture, boost the local economy, and provide consumers with fresh, high-quality products. Additionally, it offers resources and information to educate the community about the benefits of buying locally sourced food.

# SWCD

## Conservation Corner

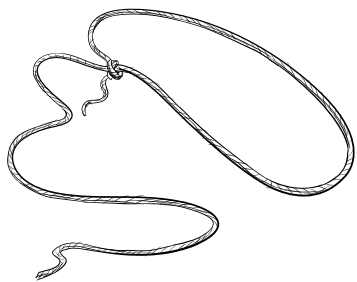
The construction season is well underway with **over 20 acres of riparian forest buffers** planted so far this year, **two stream stabilization projects** in progress on Owego Creek, **one silage leachate vegetated treatment area** being built and **multiple stormwater retention basins** advancing.



We are happy to announce **cover crop funding**. For more information or to sign up **contact Danielle** at 607-972-8009 or email at [Singerd@tiogacountyny.gov](mailto:Singerd@tiogacountyny.gov). Sign ups are **due by August 30th**.

**We are looking for feedback about recycling & disposal needs specific to agriculture.** Ag plastic containers, large tractor tires, bale wrap, etc. All feedback, questions and comments welcome! **survey [HERE](#)**

The first in a series of 3 pasture walks was held on June 12th about the basics of rotational grazing. The next one will focus on beef grazing on August 13th. Register [HERE](#): For additional support and funding options for rotational grazing, you can contact Danielle or Heather in our office: (607) 687-3553 [singerd@tiogacountyny.gov](mailto:singerd@tiogacountyny.gov) [gullifordh@tiogacountyny.gov](mailto:gullifordh@tiogacountyny.gov)



## FSA Round Up

Contact Colleen or Faith for more information at  
109a Chemung Street Waverly, NY 14892  
Phone: (607) 565-2106 x2  
Email: [colleen.mezzano@usda.gov](mailto:colleen.mezzano@usda.gov) ;  
[faith.pipher@usda.gov](mailto:faith.pipher@usda.gov)

- **Acres reporting Deadline is July 15th**
- Dairy Margin Coverage premiums are due September 1
- COC election nominations are underway for LAA#1 and LAA#2 in Chemung County
- Please report any changes to your farming operation, to include additional land, shares and direct deposit information
- **Sign up for Text Message updates: Text nytioga to FSANOW (372669) and sign up today!**

**Do you have highly erodible fields that were planted or considered planted 4 out of 6 years between 2012 and 2017? Would you like to convert that land to a wildlife habitat in exchange for a sizeable annual rental payment? You could even provide a pollinator habitat, a permanent water source for the wildlife or even a food plot. Our Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), CP-1 practice establishes a perfect habitat for wildlife while also helping to reduce erosion and help the environment. Payments are based on soil type and typically range from \$50 to \$100 an acre which is paid annually in October. Call the Tioga/Chemung FSA office at 607-565-2106 or email [colleen.mezzano@usda.gov](mailto:colleen.mezzano@usda.gov)**

# OWEGO FFA CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

Chapter Advisors: Derek Hill and Alexis Davis

Chapter Officer Team:

Mahayla Walsh (President)

Hunter Pitcher (Vice President)

Jessica Baumbach (Secretary)

Mason Hill (Treasurer)

Kathryn Donnelly-Taylor (Reporter)

Mikayla Wilbur (Jr. Member Advisor)



How does the Owego FFA chapter support agriculture?: Owego FFA members have had several opportunities that range from spreading the knowledge of agriculture to the younger generation to meeting with officials on the issues we care deeply about. Most recently, members were able to attend Taste of New York with the Tioga County Farm Bureau. Here, they were able to speak with legislators from across the state on the issues they have been following, as well as promote the agriculture products from Tioga County, including Nellie's Knoll Creamery at Our Five Acre Homestead and Hamley's Maple.



What's your favorite way to work with your community?: In more recent years, the Owego FFA Chapter has become more involved in the Tioga County Fair. Here members are able to interact with the general public more through our agriculture education building. We are also heavily focused on our younger generation by hosting agricultural events in our district elementary schools. In March, our members participated in Agricultural Literacy Week by reading to all of the second grade classrooms in the district and leading them in a seed growing activity after the book. We also put together a float, using a tractor and hay wagon, for Owego's annual Strawberry Festival parade, which allows us to highlight our chapter to the Owego community and beyond!



Tell us about something fun you're doing! In February, several members attended a winter weekend at the state FFA camp, Oswegatchie, where they went on night hikes, winter survival, and did tons of leadership workshops to bring knowledge back to our chapter. This gave members a glimpse of this gorgeous camp, and got many interested for the upcoming summer sessions. Additionally, our agriculture programs are gearing students up for their futures in their respective fields. This spring, students will be shadowing at our local veterinary office and potentially finding jobs by exploring careers in the agriculture field.



# A TIOGA COUNTY

# WALKABOUT

By Troy Bishopp - AKA The Grass Whisper

Candor, NY --- “In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.” — John Muir.

On a picturesque June evening, ripe with delicious dairy products, farmers seeking grazing knowledge and abundant grass swards sprinkled with wildflowers, the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District partnered with the Upper Susquehanna Coalition, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tioga County and the CCE South Central NY Dairy and Fields Crops team to walk-in knee-deep grasslands.

The pasture walk was the first in a series of three walkabouts this summer held in the county. The 107-acre, CCE Tioga owned Hilltop Community Farm was the perfect backdrop for the 25 guests who came to learn about the basics of rotational grazing and management considerations.

Cortland CCE Field Crops Specialist, Janice Degni began the evening with fertility and plant species guidelines for pastures while supplying guests with pertinent resources to peruse when they returned home. “Knowing what your goals are and what management style works best to meet them is a good place to start,” said Degni. Cortland CCE Dairy Specialist and beef farmer, Betsy Hicks led a pasture measuring exercise with the popular, “grazing stick” where everyone had a chance to estimate height and density of the sward and do some grazing math to determine dry matter per acre inch and how it applies to different livestock or dairy animal nutritional needs.

The group then went on to look at pasture diversity aspects and to interact with the “grass whispering” grazing specialist, Troy Bishopp from the USC on a trampling forage exercise where guests were herded up to mimic mob grazing and discover the differences in paddock shapes and grazing behavior. Sheperd Mike Quinlan led the group to paddocks he was managing with his sheep and detailed his approach to sizing paddocks and leaving residuals. “One of my primary goals of pasture management is recovery times that break parasite cycles,” he said. “I tend to move often with higher residuals and strive for at least a 45-day recovery period.”

Tioga County Conservation Professionals, Danielle Singer and Heather Gulliford provided technical assistance materials and AEM programming spotlights for farmers who would like to partner with the district on farm projects or have another set of independent eyes look at opportunities and challenges on the farm and provide practical solutions. “These get-togethers serve as connection points for all sorts of meaningful conversations and mentoring opportunities, said Singer. We all love being the conduit for farmers in providing the knowledge they need to be resilient and successful, no matter the enterprise.”



Above: Betsy Hicks, Kelly Jackson, and Danielle Singer welcome attendees

Below: Farmers measuring pasture productivity with their grazing sticks



Above: Farmers gather in sheep pasture to discuss parasite control strategies



Time	Event	Location
<b>Monday 8/5 - Pre Fair</b>		
<b>*Free Admission - No Carnival or Grandstand Events</b>		
1:00pm - 5:00pm	Youth Animals Arrive for Vet Inspections	Livestock Building
5:00pm - 7:00pm	4H Perishable Exhibit Evaluation	4H Youth Building
7:00pm	Market Animal Weigh in	Ag Building

<b>Tuesday 8/6 - Free Family Agriculture Day</b>		
<b>*Free Admission - No Carnival or Grandstand Events</b>		
8:00am - 9:00pm	Clover Cafe Open - Meals All Day	4H Youth Building
9:00am	Youth General Performance Horse Show	Skyline Corral
10:00am	Air Rifle Trailer Opens	
10:00am - 6:00pm	Family Fun Activities Sponsored by : TCSWCD, TCFB, TCARG	Ag Building
12:00pm	Craft Barn Opens	Arts & Crafts
1:00pm	Pie Tasting - "Best Pies in the County"	Arts & Crafts
1:00pm	Youth Goat Show	Livestock Arena
5:00pm	Youth Sheep Show	Livestock Arena
9:00pm	Fair Gates Close	

<b>Wednesday 8/7 - Regular Admission - \$16.00</b>		
<b>*Admission Charges - 11:00am - 9:30pm</b>		
7:00am	4H/FFA Hog Wash	Ag Building
8:00am - 9:00pm	Clover Cafe Open - Meals All Day	4H Youth Building
9:00am	Open & Youth Dairy Show	Livestock Arena
10:00am	Air Rifle Trailer Opens	
10:00am - 6:00pm	Family Fun Activities Sponsored by : TCSWCD, TCFB, TCARG	Ag Building
1:00pm	Upcycle Contest	Arts & Crafts
2:00pm - 4:00pm	FFA CDE: Vegetable Crops & Horticulture ID	FFA Tent
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Open Mic	Showmobile
5:00pm	Youth Hog Show	Livestock Arena
6:30pm	Demo Derby Drivers Meeting	Announcer Stand
7:00pm	Demolition Derby Heats	Grandstand
9:30pm	Fair Gates Close	

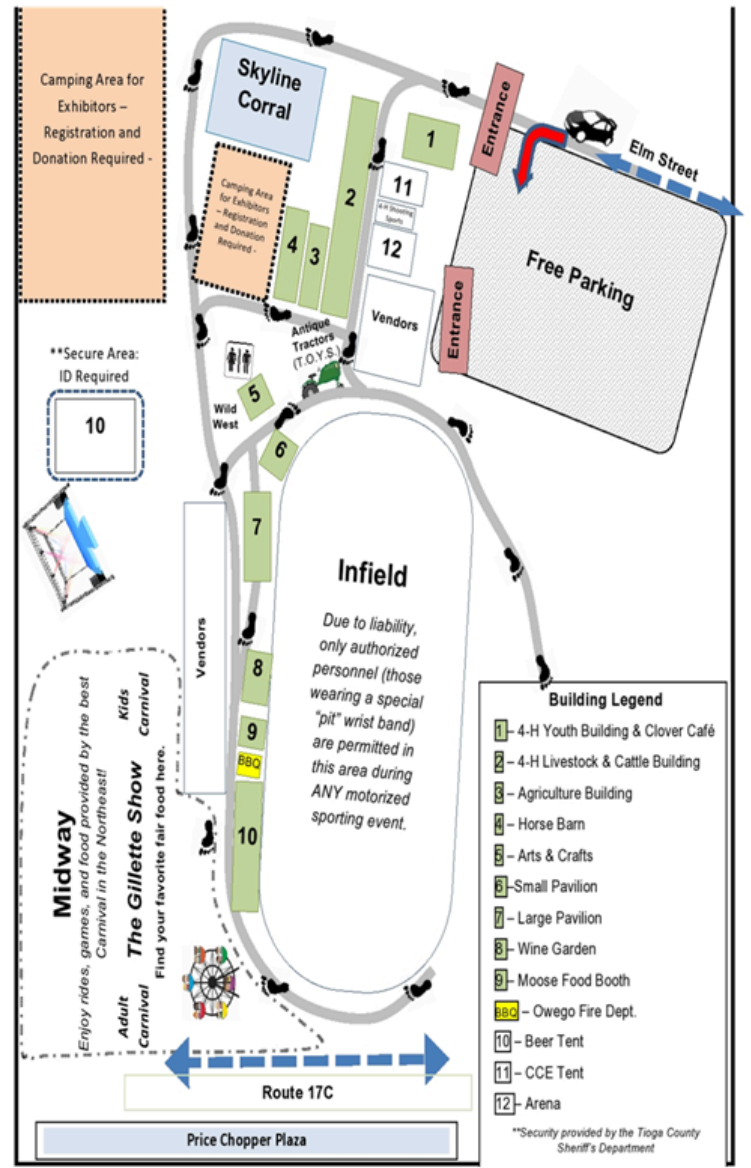
Time	Event	Location
<b>Thursday 8/8 - Regular Admission - \$16.00</b>		
<b>* Admission Chargers - 11:00am - 9:30pm</b>		
8:00am - 9:00pm	Clover Cafe Open - Meals All Day	4H Youth Building
9:00am	Youth Gym/Mounted Games/Cloverbud Horse Show	Skyline Corral
10:00am	Air Rifle Trailer Opens	
10:00am - 6:00pm	Family Fun Activities Sponsored by : TCSWCD, TCFB, TCARG	Ag Building
	ATV/Dirt Bike Registration & Trials	Grandstand
2:00pm - 10:00pm	Carnival Opens - Gillette Show	Midway
2:00pm	4H/FFA Poltry Wash	Livestock Building
2:00pm	FFA Livestock Evaluation CDE	Livestock Arena
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Open Mic	Showmobile
5:00pm	4H/FFA Youth Beef Show	Livestock Arena
7:00pm	ATV/Dirt Bike Rode Finals & Dash For Cash	Grandstand
9:30pm	Fair Gates Close	

<b>Friday 8/9 - Regular Admission - \$16.00</b>		
<b>*Admission Charges - 11:00am - 9:30pm</b>		
8:00am - 9:00pm	Clover Cafe Open - Meals All Day	4H Youth Building
9:00am	4H/FFA Poultry Show	4H Youth Building
10:00am	Air Rifle Trailer Opens	
10:00am - 6:00pm	Family Fun Activities Sponsored by : TCSWCD, TCFB, TCARG	Ag Building
12:00pm	NYS Sire Stakes	Horse Track
1:00pm	4H/FFA Rabbit Show	Livestock Building
2:00pm - 4:00pm	FFA CDE: Environmental & Natural Resource	FFA Tent
2:00pm - 11:00pm	Carnival Opens - Gillette Show	Midway
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Open Mic	Showmobile
4:00pm	ARBA Rabbit Show	Livestock Building
6:00pm	Kids Power Wheels Derby	Grandstand
7:00pm	Demolition Derby	Grandstand
9:30pm	Fair Gates Close	



# TIOGA COUNTY FAIR AUGUST 6 - 10

Time	Event	Location
<b>Saturday 8/10</b>		
<b>* Admission Charges - 11:00am - 9:30pm</b>		
7:00am	Market Animal Weigh In	Livestock Building
8:00am - 9:00pm	Clover Cafe Open - Meals All Day	4H Youth Building
10:00am	Open Beef Show	Skyline Corral
10:00am	Air Rifle Trailer Opens	
10:00am - 6:00pm	Family Fun Activities Sponsored by : TCSWCD, TCFB, TCARG	Ag Building
12:00pm	Out of Field Farm Stock Tractor Pull	Grandstand
2:00pm - 11:00pm	Carnival Opens - Gillette Show	Arts & Crafts
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Open Mic	Showmobile
5:30pm	4H/FFA Presentation of Awards	Livestock Arena
6:00pm	4H/FFA Livestock Auction	Livestock Arena
7:00pm	Truck & Tractor Pull - NY Hot Pullers	Grandstand
9:30pm	Fair Gates Close	



**Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Tioga County's 57th Annual  
4-H  
Livestock Auction  
Saturday August 10th 2024  
Tioga County Fair  
Owego, NY**

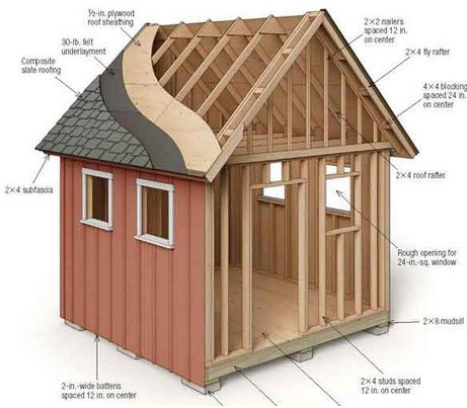
Support 4-H members! Buy Quality Raised Steer, Poultry, Lamb, Goat, Pig and Rabbit

Auction Begins at 6 p.m.

Come early to meet the 4-H members and animals

Interested in buying?  
Contact Tioga 4-H  
at [kmp268@cornell.edu](mailto:kmp268@cornell.edu)

CCE TIOGA | 4-H Cornell Cooperative Extension



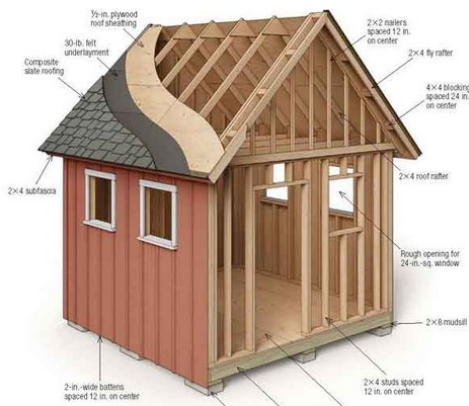
# Build & Grow

Saturday, August 24, 2024  
Berkshire Creekside Park  
16 Railroad Avenue, Berkshire, NY

**9:00am-1:00pm**

**Visit Booths of Local Contractors, Farmers,  
Dry Goods, Etc.**

To Reserve a Booth Contact George Lohmann:  
607-765-1198 or [tiogactc@gmail.com](mailto:tiogactc@gmail.com)



# Build & Grow

Saturday, August 24, 2024  
Berkshire Creekside Park  
16 Railroad Avenue, Berkshire, NY

**9:00am-1:00pm**

**Visit Booths of Local Contractors, Farmers,  
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To Reserve a Booth Contact George Lohmann:  
607-765-1198 or [tiogactc@gmail.com](mailto:tiogactc@gmail.com)



# Tioga County

## Pasture Walk Summer Series

**FREE TO  
ATTEND**

**Pasture Walk #2 will focus on beef cow grazing**



**Date:** August 13, 2024    **Location:** Twin Brook Farm  
**Time:** 5:00-7:30PM    304 Lainhart Rd, Owego, NY 13827

To register: scan the QR code or call Donette at 607.391.2662

[www.tinyurl.com/  
CCETiogaPW2](http://www.tinyurl.com/CCETiogaPW2)

**Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Tioga County**



**Cornell Cooperative Extension**  
South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Program

Please contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tioga County office if you require an accommodation.