

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION DUTCHESS COUNTY CONDUCTS SURVEY OF DUTCHESS COUNTY RESIDENTS ON WASTE DISPOSAL HABITS**

#### ***Results to Inform Grant Focused on Organics Recycling***

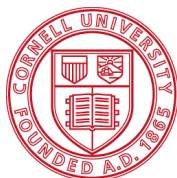
**Millbrook, NY, February 14, 2017** – Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC)'s Environment and Energy program is conducting a survey of randomly selected residents in the Town and Village of Rhinebeck, Town and Village of Red Hook, Village of Tivoli, and Village of Wappingers Falls to learn how food scraps, yard debris, and other compostable (organic) waste are disposed of in Dutchess County, and what options may be possible to reduce and recycle these resources.

Surveys are being mailed to a sample of residents randomly selected from Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency records, and are completely anonymous. Residents receiving the survey can fill it out either on paper or online.

This survey is being distributed as part of a CCEDC project focused on researching ways to expand organics recycling in Dutchess County to help reduce the overall amount of waste produced. The project was awarded funding through Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Cleaner, Greener Communities (CGC) initiative. CGC is a statewide initiative, administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), encouraging communities to incorporate sustainability goals and principles into local decision-making, leading to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the generation of economic development benefits. Dutchess County has a goal to reduce waste and achieve a 60% recycling rate by 2020. This project will help

advance the solid waste management goals of Dutchess County while also increasing the County's sustainability.

*Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities. This project is funded through a Cleaner Greener Communities grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).*



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