

# CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION - 8753

## MISSION

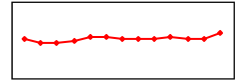
The mission of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County is to use its experience and research capability to provide for better living through its work with individuals, families, businesses and communities.

## ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT

Cornell Cooperative Extension conducts educational and assistance programs in the following areas:

- The **Agriculture Program** works with Albany County's farm and horticulture businesses to help ensure their profitability by implementing up-to-date best management practices and techniques, developing effective market strategies, advising policy makers on issues critical to agriculture and emphasizing the importance of the relationship between the environment and agricultural production practices. Home gardeners receive assistance from Master Gardener Program volunteers, who provide advice on best management techniques in the garden. In every case, research-based knowledge from Cornell University is used.
- The Agriculture staff, in partnership with other Albany County departments, works to implement pesticide regulation and reduction legislation for County facilities. Cornell Cooperative Extension has also developed a farmland and open space protection plan which makes Albany County eligible for funding for farmland preservation activities.
- The **Community Resource Development Program (CRD)** includes programs focusing on small business development, and governmental education. CRD has begun work on a research-action project to improve indoor air quality and energy efficiency in Albany County homes.
- The **4-H and Youth Development Program** develops and supports the 4-H club system in Albany County, a volunteer-powered program that helps youth and families learn together. 4-H also conducts special after-school and summer learning experiences for youth in at-risk areas of the County and a summer education day camp in the City of Albany.
- The **Human Ecology Program** focuses on the family and conducts major health and nutrition programs in areas such as women's health, eating disorders, dietary guidelines, reducing chronic disease and nutrition education for families with limited incomes. The program works with the Department of Social Services on Welfare-to-Work initiatives. Human Ecology also provides assistance in family management, positive child guidance and discipline and balancing work and family. Human Ecology has recently been notified of grant awards to conduct educational programs on childhood obesity and how beginners can establish and manage bank accounts.

## APPROPRIATION HISTORY



1998:	\$1,422,457
1999:	\$1,281,765
2000:	\$1,281,765
2001:	\$1,326,458
2002:	\$1,476,458
2003:	\$1,426,458
2004:	\$1,368,467
2005:	\$1,368,466
2006:	\$1,365,466
2007:	\$1,465,466
2008:	\$1,415,466
2009:	\$1,415,466
2010:	\$1,601,072

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

The 2011 budget proposes an appropriations reduction of \$80,000, or 4.1 percent. This reduction is consistent with the overall decrease in County spending in 2011, and does not affect the weatherization program administered by Cornell Cooperative Extension.