

Cornell Cooperative Extension Monroe County

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Four Seasons Farm Tours - Explore Agriculture in Monroe County

Schutt's Apple Mill 1063 Plank Road, Webster, NY 14580 Saturday, February 15, 2020 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

As people drive through the countryside they may notice crops growing in the fields, cattle grazing in the pastures or a farm barn or a silo standing alongside the road. But this brief look doesn't tell them the story of what it takes to grow our food.

Moreover, with its 750,000 residents, Monroe County belongs to the most populous county in our region. Approximately 90% of the population is based in the county's central urban area, whereas farms are situated mainly on its rural fringes. Consequently, everyday interaction between farmers and the non-farming community is limited.

To bring local agriculture closer to the public, the CCE of Monroe - Agriculture Program has organized 'Four Seasons Farm Tours', **FREE and open to the public events.** During each season a different farm will be featured, each with a number of interactive activities for visitors to explore. Participants will have an opportunity to see, touch and taste the farm produce, meet the farmers and food producers and learn from them about the methods and technologies used to grow our food.



Schutt's Apple Mill, a four-generation farm known for growing one of the finest apples in New York State, will host the first leg of the series – WINTER. A wide range of activities for of all ages, including games, face painting and a tractor to climb on. The cider press facility and apple packing house, spaces that are normally inaccessible to the public, will be open for people to learn about the apple cider pressing and long-term apple

storage. These two stops will be paired with the cider tasting and apple sampling. For those who are interest in hard cider

making, the tap-room will be open for questions and purchases. In addition, Master Gardener Volunteers and 4H members will demonstrate a garden-type activities such as flowering branch 'forcing' and plant propagation.

One of the attractions at each farm will be a farm quiz. Visitors can pick up a quiz sheet upon their arrival and go find the answers by visiting stations set up through the farm. Knowledgeable farm staff will man the stations and provide commentary at each. Quiz participants will get a 10% discount when they hand in a completed quiz,

SCHUTT'S
APPLE MILL
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and will be entered into a drawing for a gift card. The drawing will be done at the end of each farm event.

