

# NOFA • NJ

## W • E • E • K • L • Y

### Pawpaw-palooza



September is an exciting month for fans of pawpaws, a beloved fruit with a cult-like following. Native to the region, this tasty treat is like a mix of banana, mango, and pineapple.

You can eat pawpaws fresh, bake them into bread, brew them into beer, and blend them up like ice cream. With a short shelf life, be sure to get your pawpaw fix with NOFA NJ!

**Join NOFA NJ** as we partner with local growers to highlight pawpaws during their peak season. Pawpaw and Persimmon workshops at West Farm Nursery are almost sold out - register today for an in-depth pawpaw learning and tasting experience with pawpaw expert, Charlie West. Event info can be found below.

**On September 21**, visit the Hunterdon Community Farmers Market for an educational presentation and multi-variety pawpaw tasting, and shop with local growers to purchase pawpaw fruit and trees to plant at home. We'll be partnering with Stockton Nursery & Orchard, West Farm Nursery, Lower Neshanic Community Farm and other community partners to bring the pawpaws to the people!

## Shop at Owowcow in Lambertville - Raise \$\$ for NOFA NJ!

Treat yourself to ice cream support NOFA NJ! Visit Owowcow in Lambertville now through 8/21. Simply tell the staff at checkout that your cone is for NOFA NJ and we'll receive 20% donation back to NOFA NJ!

[MORE INFO](#)

## 08/27 - Monthly Organic Open House

On the last Wednesday of each month from 9:00-10:00 AM, we provide a platform for farmers and community members to connect, share knowledge, and discuss relevant topics in organic farming. *Zoom link provided on event page.*

[MORE INFO](#)

## 08/27 - Good Grain Film Premiere at PPA - SOLD OUT

Sponsored by [Cold Brook Farm](#) and [River Valley Community Grains](#). Join us for the Grand Premiere inside the historic 1930's barn at Pinelands Preservation Alliance in Southampton, NJ.

[MORE INFO](#)

## Pawpaw Events at West Farm Nursery & HCFM

Taste and learn how to grow the delicious North American Pawpaw, the largest tree fruit native to North America. Charlie West has grown pawpaws on his farm in Branchburg for over 10 years and foraged for them during his childhood on the family farm in Ohio. After a career as a college professor of Botany and Biological Sciences, he turned his attention to native fruit trees, especially pawpaws and American persimmons. The Wests will share tastes of several varieties of pawpaws and a few food items made from pawpaws.

[Register for September 16 Pawpaw Workshop](#)[Register for September 20 Pawpaw Workshop](#)[Join NOFA NJ at Hunterdon Community Farmers Market on 9/21](#)[Register for October 4 Pawpaw & Persimmon Workshop](#)

## Where Else to Find NOFA NJ This Month

Catch the NOFA NJ Team at the following community events in August:

- August 31 - [Frenchtown RiverFest](#)
- August 31 - Tomato Tasting at [Somerset County Regional Farmers Market](#)

## :: COMMUNITY NEWS/EVENTS



*NOFA NJ promoting local vendors  
and sampling their tomatoes at  
Hunterdon Community Farmers  
Market last week!*

8/21 - Introduction to the NRCS Technical Service Provider (TSP) Program

Technical Service Provider (TSP) program. The target audience is professionals in the natural resource management field who are interested in becoming a TSP, however the information will benefit a wide range of individuals, businesses and partner organizations. NRCS TSP Branch staff will be available to answer both written and verbal questions from the audience. [MORE INFO](#)

## 8/29 - Trees For Graziers *SilvoPro Summer Field Day*

Come learn why and how a grazing operation can incorporate trees into pastures. We'll focus in on the current method Trees For Graziers is using to establish trees. You'll learn about tree species selection, protection methods, funding sources, shade for heat stress abatement, using tree fodder and more. [MORE INFO](#)

## 9/2 - Somerville Patriots *Ag In The Ballpark*

*Ag In the Ballpark* night has been rescheduled to 9/2! Join the NJ Agricultural Community and industry partners for a fun evening of baseball. [MORE INFO](#)

## NJ Food Democracy Collaborative *Ask An Expert Series*

Join NJFDC's webinar series featuring conversations and Q&A with experts in multiple aspects of the food system.

- 8/26 - Aggregating From Local Farmers with James Klett, Fairgrown Farms
- 9/22 - Value-Added Products with Coddiwomple Canning & NOFA NJ
- 10/1 - Nonprofit Food Hubs with The Common Market & Urban Ag Cooperative

Each event is **open to South Jersey farmers and local food system stakeholders**. *If you are interested in participating and are outside of South Jersey, contact Jonathan Wetstein at [Jonathan@pinelandsalliance.org](mailto:Jonathan@pinelandsalliance.org).* [MORE INFO](#)

## NJ DEP Governor's Awards Nominations

Nominate individuals, businesses, organizations or institutions that have made an impact on NJ environmental protection. Award categories include Healthy Ecosystems, Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice, and more. [MORE INFO](#)

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

T.O.'s Hot Spice

Farm Helper

Ironbound Farm

Livestock Farmer/Asst. Manager

Gorgeous Goat Creamery

Market & Farm Event Staff

Bone-In Food

Drivers

Bone-In Food

Packhouse Manager

Closter Farm & Livestock Co.

Grocery/Farm Stand Manager

## GRANTS & FUNDING

### Tilmor *Grow More Together* Grants

Tilmor is offering a limited number of grants to small commercial farms to help them maximize their mechanical weed control and boost farm efficiency. If you are a farmer looking to make an investment in a new 520 Tractor or Power Ox and believe that Tilmor equipment would have a positive impact in your operation this grant may be for you. Receive up to \$7,000 off the purchase of the 520 tractor or up to \$700 off the purchase of the Power-Ox 240! [MORE INFO](#)

### Food Animal Concerns Trust Grants

FACT awards scholarships of up to \$400 for livestock and poultry farmers to attend educational events – including virtual events – to learn knowledge, skills and best practices related to humane animal management, business and farm finance, and/or value-added production processes. Scholarships are for registration costs only. [MORE INFO](#)

Stanley Creators Fund

This grant program invests in, and celebrates, early-stage nonprofit organizations through \$50,000 USD of unrestricted support. [MORE INFO](#)

## Healthy School Food Pathway Fellowship

This Fellowship program helps experienced school food professionals realize their visions for healthier, more sustainable, and more equitable school food — both locally in their home districts and at a national scale. [MORE INFO](#)

## :: MARKET CONNECTIONS

### New NOFA NJ Member Benefit & Community Resource

**This new section of the NOFA NJ Weekly Email is a space to advertise bumper crops, to seek out new suppliers, and more. NOFA NJ Members are welcome to have their listing shared here, just email [nofainfo@nofanjan.org](mailto:nofainfo@nofanjan.org)!**

### Organic Food Incubator Processing NJ Tomatoes

Organic Food Incubator in Bloomfield has production runs of tomato products taking place in late August/early September. Producers wishing to turn extra tomatoes into sauces, salsas, & more should contact OFI today! [MORE INFO](#)

### NOFA NJ (Still) Seeking Green Beans

NOFA NJ is seeking to purchase 100-200 lbs. of tender green beans (can not be overripe) grown organically for a group processing run of pickled green beans (AKA dilly beans). Participating farms can elect to exchange beans for finished value-added product or can sell beans outright. [MORE INFO](#)

## :: SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Cold Brook Farm



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Cold Brook Farm is a Certified Organic Farm dedicated to regenerative

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farming practices and sustainable land use. We are passionate about maximizing the biodiversity and health of the land that surrounds our zero-energy home, and we hope to assist others in learning about sustainable, net-zero living.

Shop Cold Brook Farm's website and Support Local Grains!



Thank You For Supporting NOFA NJ!

[Become a Member Today!](#)



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