



WE **R** HERE WHEN YOU NEED US

**RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF SOMERSET COUNTY**

**AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES 2020 IMPACT**

## AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT



**13**

In-person teaching  
events pre-pandemic



**727**

Attendees of our  
in-person events



**39**

Hours of in-person  
instruction

## HELPLINE SUCCESS

The Rutgers Master Gardener Program of Somerset County continued its mission of public education and outreach by providing their lawn and garden helpline service throughout 2020. Although traditionally provided in-person and over the phone, volunteers quickly adjusted to the virtual demand and logged more than 240 helpline hours in total through email submissions. This dynamic and free service is continuing to grow as we move into a new gardening season.

To learn more, visit our website:  
[somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/master-gardeners](http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/master-gardeners)



## RUTGERS MASTER GARDENERS



**3,271**

Hours of  
volunteer  
service



**\$102,742**

Worth of  
volunteer  
hours



**745**

Lawn, garden,  
landscaping, and  
pest questions  
received & researched

## ONLINE OUTREACH



**765**

Followers across our entire social media presence



**20,000**

Average views per month on our Plant & Pest Advisory blog



**1,922**

Views across our educational video series on YouTube

## A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

After more than 30 years of service to the residents of Somerset County, Joe Gyurian retired as the RCE Horticulturalist in August. Joe was instrumental in starting the Rutgers Master Gardener Volunteer Program here in Somerset County back in 1993, a program that continues to thrive today. He is well-known statewide for his expertise in insect and disease diagnostic skills, and is a highly sought-after instructor for botany and entomology, to name a few. Joe was highly engaged with literally thousands of residents and volunteers over his career. Passionate about gardening, horticulture, teaching, and learning, Joe seemed to instill the same in everyone he met. Joe planted seeds for success in every garden corner of his program.



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Whiton School • Pine Grove Manor • Harrison School, North Plainfield  
Somerset County VoTech • Habitat for Humanity • Somerset County Park Commission  
Franklin Food Bank and Farm • Somerset County Office on Aging and Disability Services  
Stein Residence • The ARC of Somerset County • Camp Jotoni • Washington Valley Park  
Snyder Research and Extension Farm • NJ Farm Bureau • NJ Dep. Of Agriculture  
NJ Department of Environmental Protection • Somerset County Board of Agriculture  
and Agriculture Development Board • Somerset - Union Soil Conservation District  
Farm Service Agency • North Jersey RC&D

**Nick Polanin** ANR Agent

**Roslyn Dvorin** Environmental Coordinator

**Marilyn Cubano** Administrative Assistant

**Julie Polyak** Business Manager

**Calvin Embleton** Marketing & Communications

Feel free to call us at (908) 526-6293 or email us at [mcubano@co.somerset.nj.us](mailto:mcubano@co.somerset.nj.us).  
Visit us online at [somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/ag](http://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/ag) and follow us on social @SCNJANR and @SCNJRMG

310 Milltown Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807 | <https://somerset.njaes.rutgers.edu/>  
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