

National Ag Day March 23, 2021



Help Celebrate
Agriculture

Do you know where your food comes from?

- If you're like many Americans, the answer is the grocery store. And frankly, that is disturbing. The grocery store isn't where food comes from - it's just from where it's distributed. In reality, far too many people are unaware of the role of American agriculture in their daily lives . . . and what it really takes to have food on their dinner table.
- Just a few generations ago, most people were a part of - and had friends or relatives involved with - agriculture. Today, that's no longer the case. In fact, agriculture is responsible for providing the necessities of life . . . food, fiber, clothing, and shelter.
- The average American farmer feeds approximately 166 people worldwide! This is a dramatic increase from 25 people in the 1960s. Agriculture is this nation's #1 export and vitally important in sustaining a healthy economy

- And it's not just the farmer who makes our food possible. The entire agriculture industry, all the way to the grocery store, are vital links in a chain that brings food to every citizen - and millions of people abroad.
- Frankly, it's easy to take agriculture for granted in America. Our food is readily accessible and safe. For this, we're unbelievably fortunate . . . but that doesn't mean we don't have an obligation to recognize how it's made possible.



The Best Ingredients.

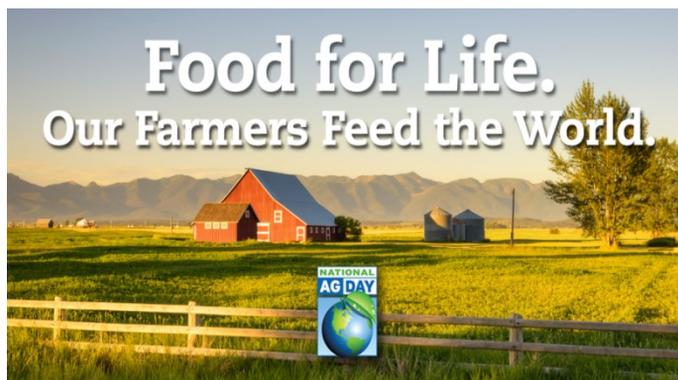


Grown by American Ag.

What Is Ag Day All About?

- Ag Day is recognizing - and celebrating - the contribution of agriculture in our everyday lives. Farmers bring everyone to the table.
- The National Ag Day program encourages every American to:
 - understand how food, fiber and renewable resource products are produced
 - value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy
 - appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products
 - acknowledge and consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food, fiber and renewable resource industries

Visit agday.org to learn more for National Ag Day



Why Celebrate Agriculture?

- Agriculture provides almost everything we eat, use and wear on a daily basis. But too few people truly understand this contribution.
- We know that food and fiber doesn't just arrive at the grocery or clothing store . . . or magically appear on our dinner table or in our closet.
- There's an entire industry dedicated to providing plentiful and safe food for consumption . . . as well as a wide range of comfortable, fashionable clothing choices.
- We rely on agriculture for the very necessities of life. From beef and pork to cotton and corn, agriculture is working harder than ever to meet the needs of Americans and others around the world.



Learn About Your Local Agriculture

- Somerset County 4H Club
- Local farm markets
- Careers opportunities in agriculture



Somerset County 4H Club

Looking for Members

- *Activities include*
 - *Prep Clubs for children grades K-3*
 - *Science and Technology Clubs*
 - *Animal Science Clubs*
 - *Arts and Culture Clubs*
- *Come visit the 4H fair for three days in August*
 - *4-H members showcase projects and skills*
 - *Others put on performances or compete*
- *Contact:*
 - *908-526-6644*
 - somersetcounty4h@co.somerset.nj.us
 - <http://www.somersetcounty4h.org/>

**“ADVANCEMENTS IN FARMING
WILL ENABLE FARMERS TO PROVIDE MORE
FOOD AND FIBER TO A GROWING POPULATION
WHILE PRACTICING **SUSTAINABILITY**
FOR THE FUTURE OF FARMING.”**



FEATURED IN THE BLOG ENTRY BY



JOHN DEERE

Support Local Farm Markets

- ***Anderson's Farm***

Market: 415 Martinsville Rd, Basking Ridge

Products: Fruit

Contact: facebook

- ***Crane Farm***

Market: 270 S Maple Ave, Basking Ridge

Products: Vegetables, fruit, herbs, flowers

Contact: cranefarm.org

- ***Ripple Hill Farm***

Market: 181 Mountain Road, Basking Ridge

Products: Fruit

Contact: ripplehillfarm.com

- ***English Farm Market***

Market: 3625 Valley Road, Liberty Corner

- ***Dogwood Farms – certified organic***

Products: Vegetables, fruit, dairy, meats, jarred goods

Contact: dogwoodfarmsnj.com

- ***English Farm – certified organic***

Products: Eggs, hay, firewood

Contact: englishfarm.org

- ***Harrison Brook Farm – certified organic***

Products: Herbs, flowers, vegetables

Contact: harrisonbrookfarm.com

For more information contact the Bernards Township Agricultural Advisory Committee or see the Bernards Township website under Boards and Commissions

ACTIVE FARMS IN BERNARDS TOWNSHIP

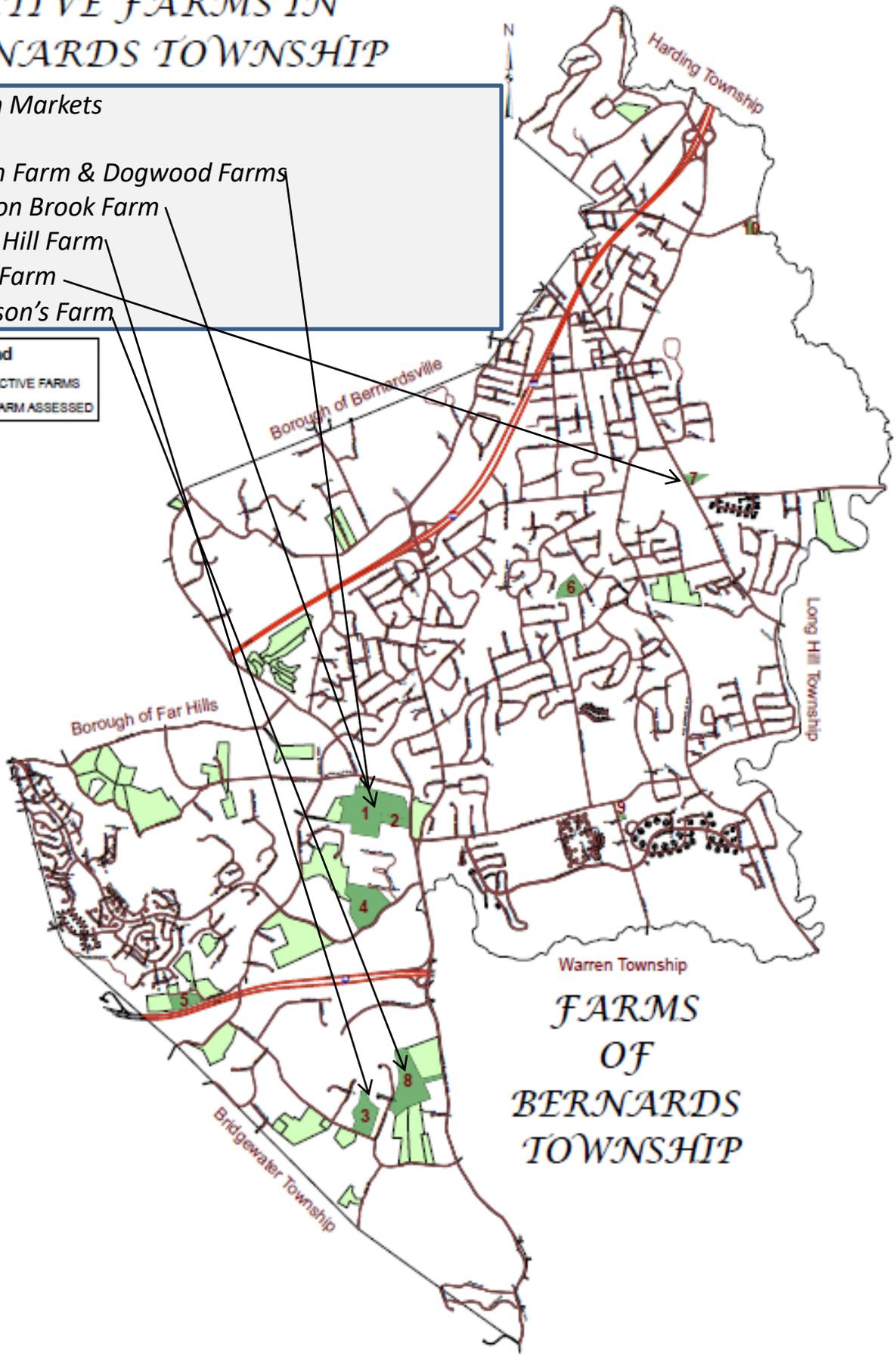
Local Farm Markets

- 1 English Farm & Dogwood Farms
- 2 Harrison Brook Farm
- 3 Ripple Hill Farm
- 7 Crane Farm
- 8 Anderson's Farm

Legend

- ACTIVE FARMS
- FARM ASSESSED

MAP



*FARMS
OF
BERNARDS
TOWNSHIP*

Careers in Agriculture

The most obvious careers are directly related to the farm or ranch. But did you know that only 10 percent of Americans are involved in traditional farming? If that is the case, then what other careers comprise the agricultural field? There are approximately 22 million people who work in agriculture related fields. Unlike agriculture of our grandparents' day, today's agriculture offers over 200 rewarding and challenging careers.

- **Growth** : Today, there are 3.75 million Americans employed full- and part-time in agriculture, including forestry, fishing and other activities. In comparison, the tech sector supports 4.3 million jobs. If one were to look at food-related industries, the numbers jump way up. In fact, one in 12 American jobs is dependent on agriculture.
- **Future** : Looking ahead, the Bureau of Labor Statistics is predicting a 19 percent decline by the year 2022 in the number of farmers, ranchers and other agricultural managers. This compares with an 11 percent increase in jobs for all occupations. But the outlook for jobs in agriculture is more promising than it first appears. The projected decline in farmers points to the continuing ability of the agriculture sector to produce more with fewer workers.

- **Job Market** : The strongest job market is expected for plant scientists, food scientists, sustainable biomaterials specialists, water resources scientists and engineers, precision agriculture specialists, and farm-animal veterinarians. A strong market is expected for e-commerce managers and marketing agents, ecosystem managers, ag-science educators, crop advisors and pest control specialists.
- **Small Farms** : The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) notes an increasing number of small-scale farmers who have developed successful market niches that involve personalized, direct contact with consumers. The BLS also finds that completing a degree at a college of agriculture is becoming important for men and women who want to farm or work in a supporting role. What's most encouraging are prospects for good jobs in all of agriculture, from large, highly-capitalized operations to small farms that supply farmer's markets and local restaurants. This is confirmed in an Agriculture Department report that says college graduates will find good employment opportunities over the next five years in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources or the environment.

Employment Opportunities Exist Across the Board in Agriculture

Career choices include:

- farm production
- agribusiness management and marketing
- agricultural research and engineering
- food science
- processing and retailing
- banking
- education
- landscape architecture
- urban planning
- energy
- and other fields

Check out even more detailed career profiles on AgCareers.com



**Farmers Fuel
The Future.**



We Grow With American Ag.