NOFA-NY
NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

44TH ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE

Schedule

Friday, January 9, 2026

Location	Programming	Presenters
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm		
Upper Lobby	Registration and Welcome	NOFA-NY
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm		
Classrooms	Supporting Farmers Through State Policy: A Farmer Roundtable	Jessica Gilbert-Overland and Della Miller of Good Food Buffalo Coalition and Ribka Getachew-McLean and Taylor Pate of Community Food Advocates
Classrooms	Exploring Collaborative Marketing Opportunities for New York and Northeast Grains and Staple Crop Growers	Erik Hassert of Reds Consulting, Tracy Lerman, Food Systems Consultant, and June Russell of Glynwood
Classrooms	Growing Cut Flowers as a Crop Enterprise	Corinne Hansch of Lovin' Mama Farm
Classrooms	Starting a New Farm Business: Plan, Track, Thrive!	Elizabeth Higgins of Cornell Cooperative Extension, Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program
Classrooms	Tunnel Tomato Tactics	Jack Whettam of Hidden Acre Farms
Rooted in Community	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm		
Classrooms	Adapting Farming for Climate Change and Policy Responses	Tracy Lerman, Food Systems Consultant, and Hannah Tremblay of Farm Aid
Classrooms	Crop Genetic Diversity Collections: Preserving Diversity and Using it in Locally-Adapted Breeding	Heron Breen of Fruits of Our Labors and Rebecca Povilus of the Geneva NY USDA - ARS, Plant Genetic Resources Unit
Classrooms	Beyond the Kitchen: Why Organic Ornamental Plants Matter and How to Grow Them	Matthew Dell of Treadlight Farm
Classrooms	Intensive Tunnel Development and Trials with Sang Lee Farms	Fred Lee of Sang Lee Farms
Rooted in Community	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below
5:15 pm - 7:00 pm		
Repertory Theater	Shabbat Dinner for Jewish Farmers	Jewish Farmer Network
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm		
Upper Lobby	Opening event! Join your friends for live music, local food, drinks, and great company!	NOFA-NY
Upper Lobby	Trade Show	Conference Exhibitors and Supporters
Upper Lobby	Live Music	Honey for the Bees

Saturday, January 10, 2026

Location	Programming	Presenters
7:00 am - 9:00 am		
Upper Lobby	Registration and Welcome	NOFA-NY
Upper Lobby	Trade Show	Conference Exhibitors and Supporters
Repertory Theater	Breakfast	NOFA-NY
9:00 am - 10:15 am		
Classrooms	Repairing Relations with Urban Soils	Danielle Peláez and Winter Exley of Soul Fire Farm
Classrooms	Whole Systems Livestock Management	Ryan Martens of Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture
Classrooms	Perennial Vegetables that Sustain Themselves	Dani Baker of The Enchanted Edible Forest at Cross Island Farms
Classrooms	Organic Apple and Chestnut Production	Brian Caldwell of Hemlock Grove Farm
Classrooms	Increasing Food Access for NY Communities	Brenda Gonzalez and Chris Nickell of Finca Seremos, Iris Gillingham of Gael Roots Community Farm, and Sea Matias of Serra Vida Farm
Classrooms	Seeds of Change: Growing the Future of Organic	Courtney Buzzard of Arizona State University
Rooted in Community	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below
10:30 am - 11:45 am		
Classrooms	Collaborative Care: Turning Learning Into Action	Christine Hutchinson with Peter Oates, Lyness Martinez, and Dyanara Alejos of Our Core, Inc.
Classrooms	Integrating Animals, Vegetables, and Biodiversity into a Healthy, Whole Farm	Anthony Mecca of the Biodynamic Association
Classrooms	Federal Ag Policy in a Disruptive Environment	Steve Etka of National Organic Coalition and Patty Lovera of Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment
Classrooms	Greenhouse Production of Certified Organic Herb and Vegetable Plants	Walter Gaipa of Marion Gardens, Organic Herbs
Classrooms	Intro to Organic Certification	Kristen Barker and Dominique Mailloux of NOFA-NY
Classrooms	Increasing Food Access for NY Communities	Brenda Gonzalez and Chris Nickell of Finca Seremos, Iris Gillingham of Gael Roots Community Farm, and Sea Matias of Serra Vida Farm
Rooted in Community	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm		
Upper Lobby	Trade Show	Conference Exhibitors and Supporters
Repertory Theater	Lunch	NOFA-NY
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm		
Rooted in Community	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below
2:00 pm - 3:15 pm		
Classrooms	Urban Farming and Community Gardens in Albany	Francis Magai of Radix Ecological Sustainability Center
Classrooms	Marketing Paths for Meat Producers	Tanya Moyer of Center for Agricultural Development & Entrepreneurship
Classrooms	No-Till on an Organic Mixed Vegetable Farm	Carlos Aguilera and Lorena Mendoza of West Haven Farm
Classrooms	Cover Crops for Urban Gardening	Elizabeth Henderson of the Agricultural Justice Project and Koi Mendez of 490 Farmers
Classrooms	Edible Landscaping with (Mostly) Native Plants for Agroforestry Systems	Allyson Levy and Scott Serrano of Hortus Arboretum and Botanical Gardens
Classrooms	State Ag Policy Update	Robert Chang of Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust and Wes Gillingham of NOFA-NY and Catskill Mountainkeeper
Rooted in Community	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm		
Classrooms	Growing Community in Brooklyn: Building and Sustaining an Urban Farm	Jesse Miller, Taziyah Phillip, and Grace Walsh-Little of Spring Creek Towers Farm
Classrooms	Nonbinary Botany	K Greene of Hudson Valley Farm Hub
Classrooms	Soil Health Benchmarks and How Farmers Improve Soil Health	Luke Gianforte of Gianforte Farm, Matthew Glen and Liz Martin of Muddy Fingers Farm, and Michael Glos of New York Soil Health
Classrooms	The Evolving Farm Labor Landscape	Carlos Aguilera and Lorena Mendoza of West Haven Farm, Michaela Hayes-Hodge of Rise & Root Farm, and Zaid Kurdieh of Norwich Meadows Farm
Classrooms	Small and Profitable: Thriving as a Micro-Farm Without Scaling Up	Lisa Wheeler Duff of Oak Spring Farm
Classrooms	Growing Berries from Around the World	Allyson Levy and Scott Serrano of Hortus Arboretum and Botanical Gardens
Rooted in Community	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below	Please see the affinity space workshop schedule below

ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

Schedule

A Space for Indigenous, Black, Latinx, Asian, SWANA Farmers: The Rooted in Community Space is a FuBu (for us, by us) offering, designed to meet the needs of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, SWANA farmers, landworkers, and earth stewards, providing space within the NOFA-NY Conference to access connection, care, knowledge and resource sharing, grass roots organizing, and respite.

Friday, January 9, 2026

Location	Programming	Presenters
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm		
Rooted in Community	Growing Together: Building Coalitions for Resilient Farms and Communities + Intro to the Rooted in Community Space	Mandana Boushee of the Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm		
Rooted in Community	Meet the LAND Project	Jazz Kerr of Digital Currents Co. and the Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust LAND Project

Saturday, January 10, 2026

Location	Programming	Presenters
9:00 am - 10:15 am		
Rooted in Community	Lessons Learned and Moving Forward with Policy in 2026	Robert Chang of the Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust
10:30 am - 11:45 am		
Rooted in Community	Union 101: Worker-Led Organizing	Emith Escobar of Brandworkers
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm		
Rooted in Community	We Were - On the Way	Christine Hutchinson of the Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust and Our Core, Inc.
2:00 pm - 3:15 pm		
Rooted in Community	Bridging the Gap to Land Ownership for Farmers	Sea Matias of Serra Vida Farm
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm		
Rooted in Community	Food System Solutionaries: Archiving Stories from the Frontline	Melanie Allen of Liberating Investments in the Food and Farm Ecosystem