



ANNOUNCEMENT  
**88<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NEW JERSEY FFA  
SPRING CAREER DEVELOPMENT  
EVENTS**

NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION, INC.  
New Jersey Department of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 330  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0330  
Telephone: 1-877-Ag Ed FFA, Fax: 609-633-2421

December 5, 2011

To: New Jersey FFA Chapter Advisors/Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources  
Teachers

From: Erin Noble, State FFA Specialist

C: Nancy J. Trivette, Program Leader, Agricultural Education

Re: Spring Career Development Events  
Thursday, April 19, 2012 – 9:30 am – 1:30 pm  
Cook Campus, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

**WHAT DO SPRING CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS INVOLVE?**

Floriculture, Nursery/Landscape, Environmental and Natural Resource Management, Agricultural Mechanics, Veterinary Science, and Agricultural Sales Events will be conducted using the rules, judging forms and references available in the Career Development Events Handbook 2012-2016. **It is important to review the current National FFA CDE Handbook for changes to the CDEs (including identification lists, resources, practicums, etc.).** Copies are available on the National FFA website (<https://www.ffa.org/programs/awards/cde/Pages/default.aspx>). Students should be prepared in all event sections.

The 2012 National Event Themes are:

- Agricultural Technology and Mechanical Systems – Material Handling Systems
- Agricultural Sales – Product information will be distributed once it becomes available from National FFA

**WHO CAN ATTEND?**

Students and teachers from all schools with Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources programs are encouraged to attend and participate in the educational activities provided. FFA activities are integral to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources instruction.

Since teachers will be assigned to assist at various Career Development Events, they will work together to supervise students throughout the day. All students attending **must** participate in the Career Development Events provided. Provisions for observation will not be made.

**WHO CAN COMPETE?**

1. Contestants must be currently enrolled in an approved agricultural education course.
2. Students who have been members of a first place official team in a state event and have participated at the highest level for that event may not judge again in that particular event. (except for Vet Science in 2012)
3. Four members may participate in the Nursery/Landscape, and Agriculture Mechanics Events. The scores of the three highest individual's constitute the score of the official team. In Ag Sales, Floriculture, Environmental/Natural Resources, Veterinary Science a four-member team is required.

### **HOW DO I PRE-REGISTER?**

Pre-registration and payment for all chapters participating in Spring Career Developments is requested by **Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Please submit completed registration to [ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us). If names cannot be pre-registered, *please pre-register with the school name*. A minimum of five teams is necessary to run any state Career Development Event.

Registration fees are used to pay Career Development Event expenses and to provide awards to FFA members. Please make checks payable to: Treasurer, State of New Jersey with "FFA Spring CDE" in the memo line and send to the Office of Agricultural Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 330, Trenton, NJ 08625-0330. Registration will not be accepted any later than two weeks prior to the event. Please be prepared to pay prior to or at the registration desk at the Round House.

*(Remember, your payment is non-refundable since your registration is what we use to pay for event expenses. NOTE: The only exception, according to New Jersey's FFA Conference Refund Policy, is a doctor's note or proof of death in the immediate family along with a cover letter explaining the circumstance. This must be sent to the state executive board within one month of the event.)*

### **HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

The cost is \$36.00 per team, or \$9.00 per person (maximum 4-team members), unless the chapter is Blue Affiliated (then registration is free); registration fee is assessed per contest for each chapter participating. Please pay this fee at the time of pre-registration. Make checks payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey. In the memo area of the check, please identify "FFA Spring CDE". **CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

### **WHERE DO I PARK ON EVENT DAY?**

Observe Rutgers parking regulations. Parking along side of the road near the barns or Round House constitutes a traffic hazard. Please do not park at the Round House. Additional parking details will be provided closer to the event date.

### **WHEN AND WHERE DO I REGISTER ON APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>?**

Events will **START PROMPTLY at 10:00 am as SCHEDULED**. One teacher from each chapter will pay registration fees and confirm pre-registrations for the teams at the Round House headquarters on College Farm Road **before 9:30 am**. Your teams must be verified at the roundhouse in order to qualify for competition. Please plan to arrive on campus in a timely manner. Arriving at 10:00 or later does not provide your students with a fair opportunity and may result in them missing a component of their event.

### **WHERE DO TEAMS NEED TO BE BY 10:00 AM?**

Official teams will be at the event locations at the starting time. CDE Coordinators have the right to disqualify teams that arrive late and might not be able to allow teams to make up missed components of the event. A timely start helps make an efficient finish. Please respect other participants by having your

students to the event prior to the start time. **All contestants' registrations must be confirmed by advisors on the day of the event.**

1. Floriculture Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.  
Cook Campus Center (Student Center) – MPR A, B & C, 59 Biel Road
2. Agricultural Sales Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Cook Campus Center (Student Center), 59 Biel Road
3. Nursery/ Landscape Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Turf Farm, Ryders Lane
4. Agricultural Technology and Mechanical Systems Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Turf Farm, Ryders Lane
5. Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Horticulture Farm 1 - Log Cabin and Pavilion, Ryders Lane
6. Veterinary Science Career Development Event – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Labor Education Building, 50 Labor Center Way

#### **HOW ARE EVENTS SCORED?**

1. Dues paying FFA members make up the team score. If a contestant is found not to be a member, then his/her score will be dropped from the team score, thus causing contest teams to be re-ranked for recognition.
2. The chapter with the highest team score in each event will have the opportunity to represent the New Jersey FFA Association at the National FFA Career Development Event in Indianapolis, IN in October 2012 and the Eastern States Regional FFA Career Development Events in Springfield, Massachusetts in September 2012 (if event is available). **The top TWO teams in the Veterinary Science CDE will represent the NJ FFA at the 2012 National FFA Convention. The top team in Veterinary Science will have the opportunity to compete at the Eastern States Regional FFA CDEs in the Small Animal CDE.** Team members must be accompanied to these events by advisor(s).

#### **WHEN WILL WE KNOW RESULTS?**

Official results will be available to all chapters/schools via email, the state Agricultural Education website and at [www.judgingcard.com](http://www.judgingcard.com). **DO NOT CALL THE STATE OFFICE FOR RESULTS.**

#### **WHAT STUDENT RECOGNITION IS THERE?**

Only dues-paid members and chartered chapters may compete for awards and for further competition. Non-members and non-chartered chapters may participate; however, they are not eligible for trips, trophies, certificates or banners. Registration fees may be higher for non-members to cover costs.

1. A banner or plaque will be awarded to the first place team in each state level event at the annual State Convention.

2. Medals will be awarded to the first, second and third place individuals overall in each event and certificates will be awarded to the top five (5) students who excel in practical parts of the events.
3. A Career Development Event Sweepstakes Award will be presented to the New Jersey team that places the highest in National Competition. This includes all National FFA Events and Land Judging.

### **WHAT ARE THE RULES?**

1. No individuals from the same school/chapter may talk, confer or judge together. Penalty will be loss of score for that section of the event or disqualification for the event. Event coordinator has the authority to make disqualifications.
2. Participants are NOT allowed to use (or have visible) electronic devices during the event, unless for medical reasons or a portion of the event requires usage. This includes cell phones, iPods, mp3 players, etc. Participants will be allowed to use calculators, if specified for that event; however, cell phone calculators are not permitted! **Failure to adhere to these rules can result in disqualification.**
3. All individuals participating will judge in a cooperative manner following the rules set forth by the event coordinator.
4. No school/chapter will use Rutgers Cook Campus or Delaware Valley College for the training of teams. **Penalty will be disqualification.**
5. Four members may participate in each event; the score of the three highest constitutes the official team for Nursery Landscape and Agricultural Technology and Mechanical Systems. The fourth member automatically becomes the team alternate. Agricultural Sales, Floriculture, Environmental and Natural Resources and Veterinary Science require four members to compete and event scores will be based on all four members. See National Career Development website for clarification, <https://www.ffa.org/programs/awards/cde/Pages/default.aspx#>.
6. All events will be scored using “Scan-tron” sheets. It is important for students to listen to directions and to fill out the sheets correctly in order to receive credit. Sample scan-tron sheets are available for practice on the State Activity Guide. All events will use the Multipurpose sheet.
7. There will be no separate alternate teams.
8. A student may not compete in more than one event during FFA Career Development Events. A student cannot compete in more than one event at the National Competition each year. This includes public speaking, parliamentary procedure and all non-leadership team events.
9. The \$35 National level competition fee and \$10 Eastern States competition fee will be paid by the competing school.

### **WHAT SHOULD MY STUDENTS WEAR AND HOW SHOULD THEY ACT?**

1. All Contestants will abide by the FFA Code of Ethics. This includes:

- a. FFA jacket or a nametag with name, school and chapter worn in all FFA events.
  - b. Neat and safe clothing is required to promote a positive image for the FFA. Complete and proper official dress should be worn for Agricultural Sales and Floriculture. Travel official dress is appropriate for Nursery Landscape and Environmental/Natural Resources. Appropriate shop attire should be worn for the Ag Mechanics event. Consult the Official Manual for descriptions of official dress.
  - c. Outdoor events (e.g. Nursery/Landscape) will be held rain or shine. Please be prepared and dress accordingly for such weather conditions.
2. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be disqualified and asked to leave the event area.
  3. Contestants should also be familiar with the proper use of the FFA jacket (i.e. members never smoke while wearing the FFA jacket). Advisors should review the Official Manual and/or Student Handbook with students regarding Code of Ethics, Official Dress, and proper use of the FFA jacket.
  4. The use of ANY tobacco product is not permitted at any FFA event including career development events.

#### **WHEN AND WHERE DO WE EAT?**

The event schedule is continuous from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. You may bring lunch or plan to purchase lunch at the Cook Campus Student Center or at the Food Science Cafeteria.

#### **HOW DO I GET SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MY STUDENTS?**

**If a student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP) indicates a need for assistance during a career development event, the school is responsible for providing the reader or scribe. Please identify the name of the student, their need, and the name of the assistant in your registration e-mail.**

The following types of assistance will be allowed, if indicated in an IEP:

- Reader - The reader will assist a student by reading out loud to them any written instructions for the CDE, exam questions, etc. without providing any interpretation of the questions/information or helping that student come to a conclusion.
- Scribe - The scribe will provide assistance to a student by writing down information such as the answer to a question. The scribe will not provide a student with direction or additional information that would help that student solve a problem or come to a conclusion.

*In order to conduct a state level career development event efficiently, no additional time will be provided to a student to complete portions of that career development event.*

#### **AS A TEACHER AND FFA ADVISOR, WHAT IS MY ROLE?**

The support and assistance of teachers and FFA advisors is vital for the success of career development events. This assistance includes, serving as proctors or timekeepers for components of the event, assisting students with the new scan-tron scoring system, scoring of some rounds, and helping as needed. You will also serve as an adult chaperone for the students in your event, as their advisor may be assisting at a different event location.

**Tentative event assignments are provided below. In the event that you are unable to assist where indicated, please notify Erin Noble at [erin.noble@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:erin.noble@ag.state.nj.us) immediately. Prior to the event, confirmation emails will be sent to you reminding you of where your assistance is requested.**

After you have dropped your students at their event locations, please report immediately to your assigned event location and sign in with the career development event coordinator or official. They will let you know where your help is most crucial for the event.

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT ASSIGNMENTS (*Tentative*)**

**AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS**

10 AM at Turf Farm, Ryders Lane

Mr. Worth Christian  
Mr. Mike Hlubik  
Mr. Dale Cruzan  
Mr. Greg Babbitt  
Mr. Bryan Leh  
Mr. Erik Fargo  
Ms. Jennifeur Wilson  
Mr. Tim Hagar  
Ms. Amanda Hayes  
Mr. Mike Griffith

**AG SALES**

10 AM at Cook Campus Center, 59 Biel Road

Mr. Joel Rudderow  
Mrs. Nan Hamilton  
Mrs. Erin Dwyer

**ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCE**

10 AM, Hort Farm 1

Mr. Hans Toft  
Mr. Brian Hayes  
Ms. Patty Thorne  
Ms. Kim Desrochers  
Mr. Keith Dannucci  
Mrs. Kim Szulecki  
Ms. Robin McLean  
Mr. Dave Pede

**FLORICULTURE**

10 AM at Cook Campus Center,  
Rooms MPR A, B & C, 59 Biel Road

Ms. Bonnie Baldasare  
Mr. Robert Edelschein  
Mr. Gary Nelson  
Mrs. Laurie Neyhart  
Ms. Lisa Ann Moschera Chernigovets  
Mr. Brian Burns  
Ms. Tiffany Morey  
Mr. Mike Ridge  
Ms. Peggy Grady  
Mrs. Cheryl Alfonse

**NURSERY/LANDSCAPE**

10 AM Turf Farm, Ryders Lane

Ms. JoAnn Sopchak  
Mr. John Neyhart  
Mr. John Petronglo  
Mr. Shawn McKay  
Mr. Brian Martin  
Mr. Daniel Delcher  
Mrs. Nichol Carroll  
Mrs. Cindy VonThun

**VETERINARY SCIENCE**

10 AM Labor Ed Building, Labor Center Way

Ms. Ellen Inman  
Ms. Leigha Davanzo  
Mrs. Denise Emmons  
Ms. Marilyn Patterson  
Mrs. Amy Warren  
Mr. Scott Kresge  
Mr. Brian Ducey