



## *Press Release*

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Essex County Agricultural Producers Revitalization Microenterprise Grant**

**Elizabethtown, NY – October 7, 2024** – The Essex County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA) in partnership with Essex County was awarded \$125,000 for the implementation of the Essex County Agricultural Producers Revitalization Microenterprise Grant Program funded by the New York State Department of Conservation Adirondack Park Community Smart Growth Grant Program. A public meeting will be held on Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at the Westport Town Hall at 6:00 PM. The Town Hall is located at 22 Champlain Avenue in Westport, NY.

A detailed Agricultural Producers Revitalization Microenterprise Grant program guidebook for Essex County agricultural producers is available. The guide outlines general grant program information, eligibility, eligible uses of funds, ineligible uses of funds, program process, and additional details. Also included is information on business support and resources that will be available.

An entrepreneurial training component will also be mandatory part of the program and application process. The Mandatory Business Training & Agricultural Environmental Management Class will be held on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Mountain Lake Services Training Room located 10 St. Patrick's Place in Port Henry, NY. Pre-Registration is required via the Essex County IDA by calling 518-873-9114 or online at <https://bit.ly/AgMicroBusinessTraining2024>.

This new agriculture microenterprise grant program will assist agricultural producers to help them become more environmentally resilient and economically viable through sustainable growth. The grant can be used to assist with environmental management resources that can reduce environmental threats through implementation of adaptive environmental changes which will not only protect the environment but also improve their economic viability to become more sustainable. The program will encourage economic growth by providing an additional source of capital for the purchase of furniture, fixtures and equipment, marketing, working capital, inventory, operating expenses, and seed purchase for crop rotation.

For more information on the Essex County Agriculture Producers Revitalization Microenterprise Grant Program, contact the ECIDA at 518-873-9114 or visit [www.essexcountvida.com](http://www.essexcountvida.com).

*Essex County Industrial Development Agency - The mission of the Essex County Industrial Development Agency is to create a viable business atmosphere that will attract compatible and diverse sustainable economic development opportunities while focusing on major assets, retention and expansion projects, quality of life and job creation. The EC/DA offers several financing options to businesses such as loan and bond financing, other economic development incentives and also owns and manages several business/commerce parks throughout the County.*

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