Tilly Foster Farm & Educational Institute



John Tully

Putnam County
Deputy Commissioner of Highways

Mission Statement

Tilly Foster Farm is a Putnam County owned property and facility that fosters financial, environmental, social and historical stewardship through a variety of program offerings by means of public-private partnerships.

- Approximately 199 Acres in the Town of Southeast NY
- Originally used as a dairy farm, then used for horse breeding
- Putnam County purchased in 2002
 - Purchased with East of Hudson (EOH) Water Quality Funds
 - Using these funds required the County to execute a conservative easement with the Watershed Agricultural Council (WAC)
- In 2009, Putnam County entered into a lease agreement with a nonprofit entity to operate the farm as a museum with educational activities
- Putnam County assumed full day to day operations of Tilly Foster Farm on January 31, 2014



We Listened To The Public Regarding The **Future Of Tilly Foster**

- Sub-Committees Were Formed
 - Agricultural
 - Health & Education
 - Business/Economic Development
 - Soil & Water
 - Infrastructure
 - Tourism



Developing a Plan Meant Understanding The Challenges

- Footprint Increase Restrictions
- Septic System in Need of Major Overhaul
- Buildings Requiring Extensive Repairs Just to be Habitable







Developing a Plan Meant Understanding The Challenges

- Watershed Agricultural Council (WAC) Restrictions
- Impervious Surfaces
- Compliance with "Area" Designations
 - Agricultural Conservation Easement Area (ACEA)
 - Forestry Conservation Easement Area (FCEA)
 - Acceptable Development Area (ADA)
 - Farm Areas (FA)
 - Resource Protection Area (RPA)
 - Municipal Acceptable Development Area (MADA)

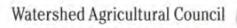






Tilly Foster Property

Watershed / WAC





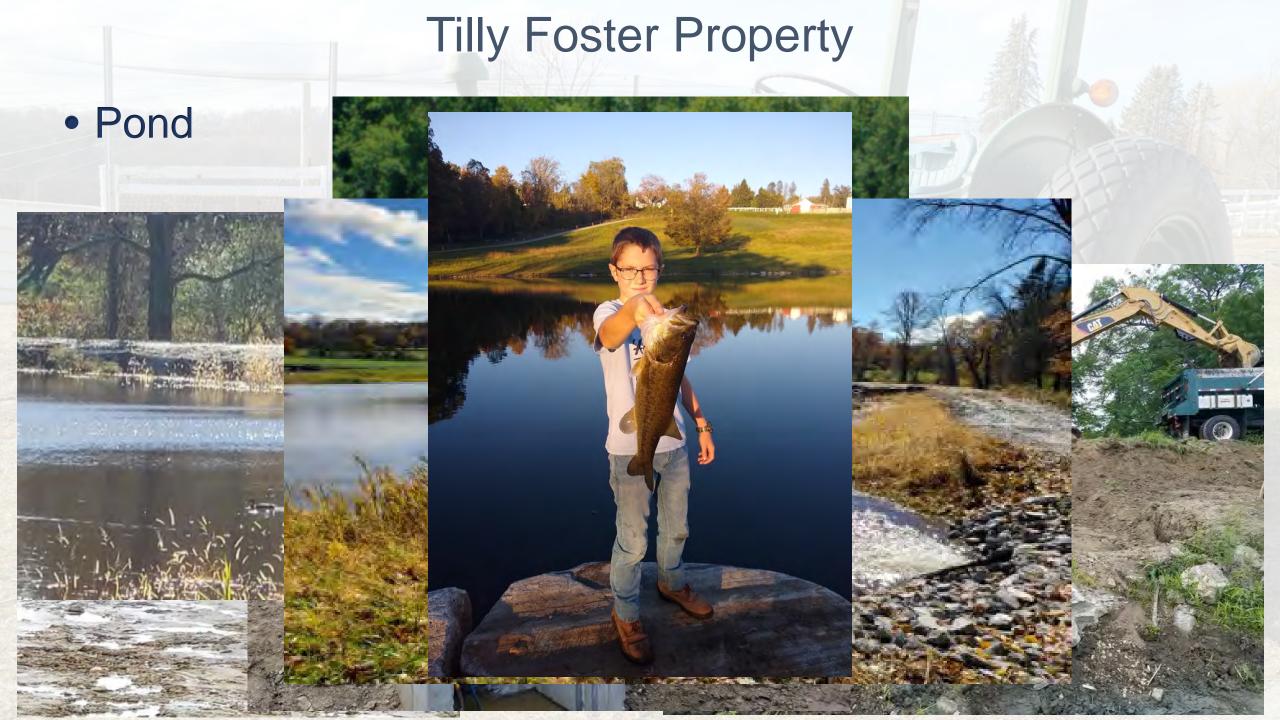
Our Mission

To promote the economic viability of agricultural and forestry, the protection of water quality, and the conservation of working landscapes through strong local leadership and sustainable public-private partnerships











Lisa Walker

Putnam County Farm Administrator



Tilly Foster is, and Always Will Be,

A FARM FIRST!

- As a destination, provide an enjoyable and educational experience for visitors
- Exemplify best practices in regenerative and sustainable agriculture
- Provide Tilly's Table, the Office of Senior Resources, and BOCES culinary program with the highest quality product at fair market value
- We're here to help our farming community, not compete with it



- In 2018
 - Grew over 35 varieties of vegetables and flowers on 1/3 acre
 - \$15,449.19 worth of produce sold to Tilly's Table and OSR







- In 2019
 - Installed new greenhouse
 - Doubled vegetable production
 - Partnered with BOCES Animal Care Program
 - Added 2 Percheron Draft Horses



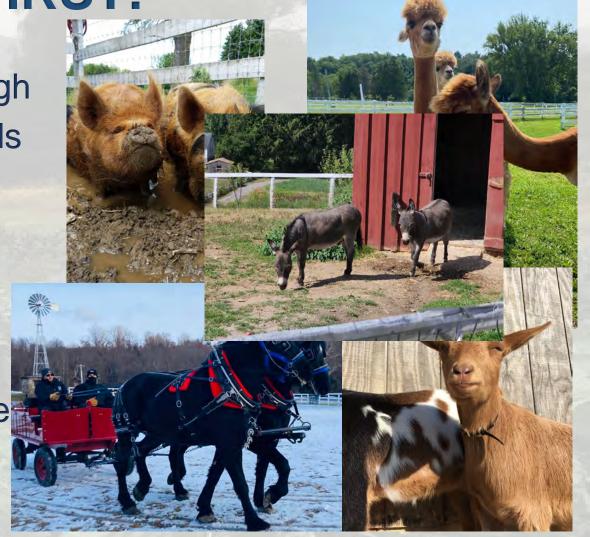
- 2020
 - We were dealing with a Global Pandemic
 - Travel is limited
 - Social distancing became the norm
 - Tilly Foster Farm became
 The Destination



- In 2021
 - Expanded the garden to 2.5 acres
 - Added Khaki Campbell Ducks
 - Began partnering with BOCES Culinary Students
 - Partnered with Cornell
 - Families Growing Together
 - Apiary Program
 - Farm Stand opened to the public
 - Partnered with Muscoot Farm Added 3 Baby
 Pigmy Goats



- In 2022
 - Farming production is at an all time high
 - Continued care for our beloved animals
 - Alpacas, Nigerian Dwarf Goats, Kunekune Pigs, Ducks and Percheron Horses!
 - Began working with an Agronomist to produce nutri-dense soil
 - Added 2 new Sardinian donkeys to the farm



Tilly Foster is, and Always Will Be, A FARM FIRST!

Tilly Foster has the potential to highlight and continue the Agrarian traditions of Putnam County while exhibiting best practices. The farm is beneficial to the community as a source for clean, locally grown food as well as a resource for education and positive, family friendly experiences





Since its opening, Tilly's Table has focused on sharing the farming

tradition of friends and family gatherings

Farm to Table dining experience

Weddings

Corporate gatherings

Family events

Birthdays

Bar Mitzvahs

Showers



STARTERS

Tilly Foster presents a unique experience for any gathering

Rustic dining in our restaurant

Beautiful barn

 Outdoor setting with the farm as the backdrop



 Tilly Foster provides the best setting for our Outdoor Concert Series





OUTDOOR CONCERTS

JUNE 4TH
FLEETWOOD MAC &
STEVIE NICKS TRIBUTE - RIKKI NICKS

JUNE 11TH EAGLES TRIBUTE - FAST LANE

JULY 9TH
ALMOST QUEEN - TRIBUTE TO QUEEN
& PHILADELPHIA FREEDOM
ELTON JOHN TRIBUTE

JULY 16TH
JOURNEY TRIBUTE - RESURRECTION

JULY 30TH

FOREIGNER TRIBUTE - HEADGAMES

AUGUST 6TH
PAT BENATAR & REO SPEEDWAGON
BEST SHOT & SPEEDWAGON
THE REO EXPERIENCE

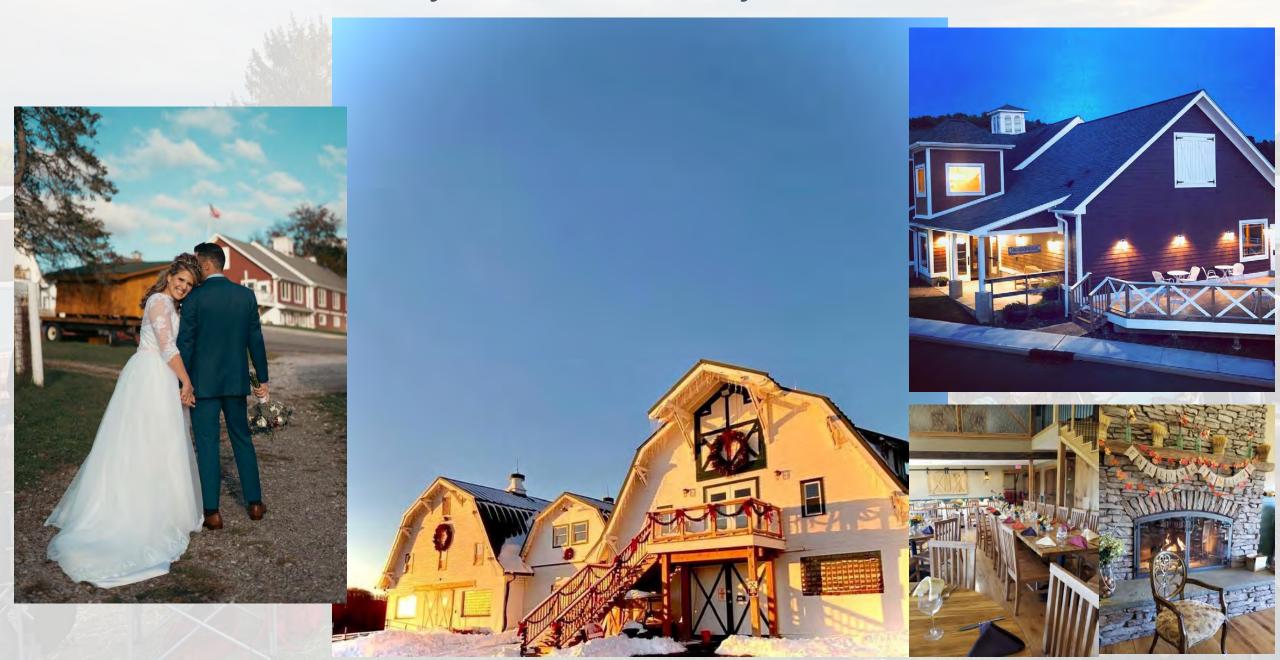
AUGUST 27TH BON JOVI TRIBUTE - 1 WILD NIGHT

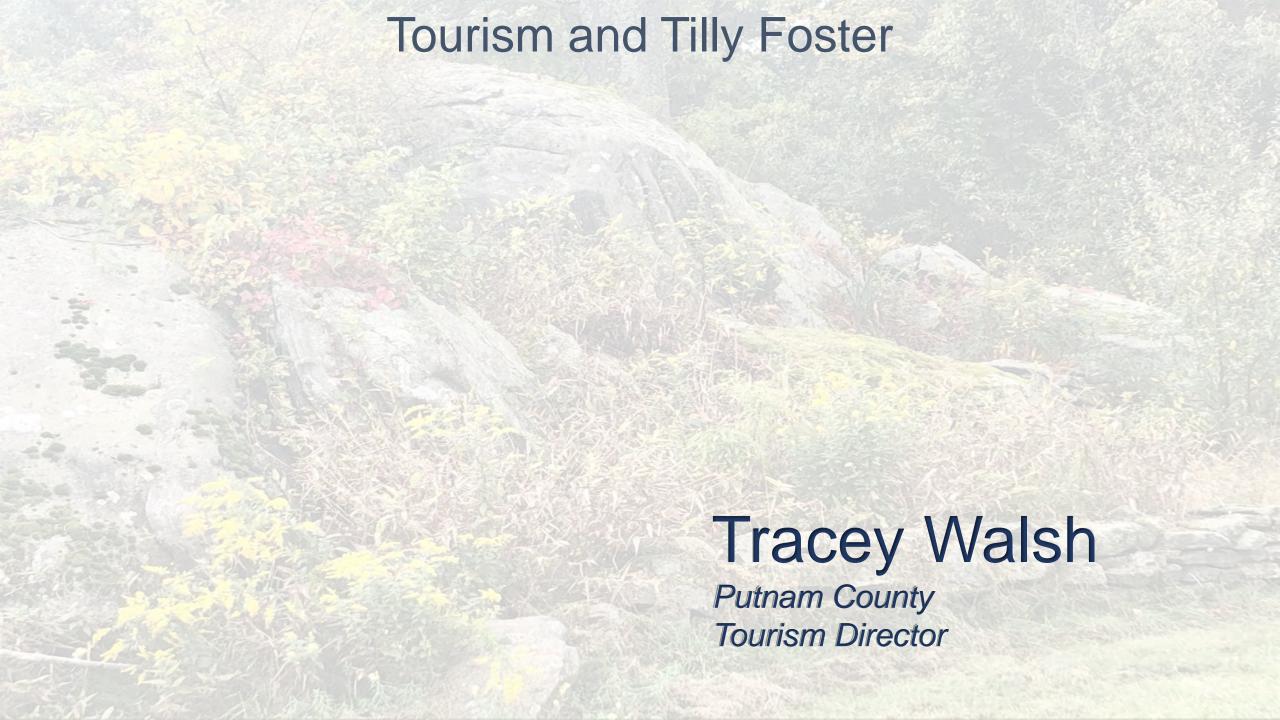
SEPTEMBER 23RD
OKTOBERFEST WITH BILLY JOEL
TRIBUTE DAVID CLARK

As well as our family themed & Mom and Dad

"date night" entertainment







Tourism and Tilly Foster are a Natural Fit

- Tourism opened a satellite office at Tilly Foster
- Allows enhanced collaboration throughout Putnam County,
 The Hudson Valley, and New York State



Week Kickoff







Hudson Valley Putnam Grows Restaurant Open House on the Farm



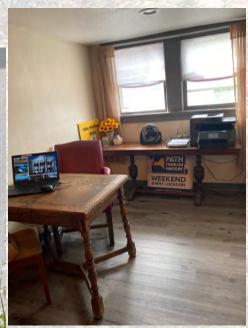


Film Putnam
Informational
Lunch

Path Through History









Tourism and Tilly Foster are a Natural Fit

- Families can spend a day at the farm
- Spend time with our farm animals
- Take photos or paint the beautiful landscape





Tourism and Tilly Foster are a Natural Fit

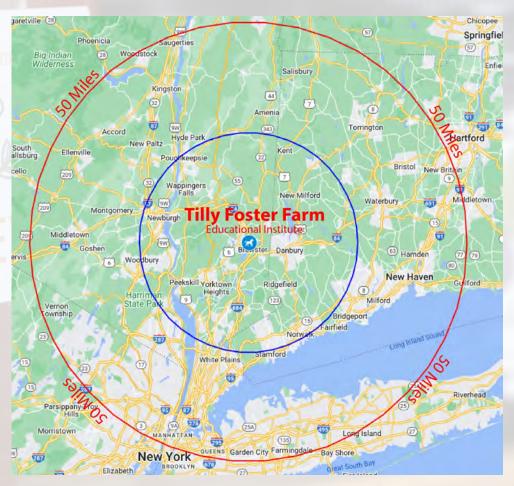
- Art on display
- Visit our Farm Stand
- Stop in at Jar Worthy
- Take a self guided walking tour
- A place for people of all cultures to come together and learn



Tourism and Tilly Foster are a Natural Fit

Agritourism

- Has the ability to put a small town on the map
 - Visitors fill up their gas tank, do a little shopping and dining
- A farm agritourism experience provides an excellent opportunity for day-trippers
- Research has shown that a tourist will travel up to 200 miles to visit a destination farm



Tourism and Tilly Foster

Tourism and Tilly Foster are a Natural Fit

- We Took A Look At The Analytics
- For the Spring/Summer Campaign of 2022
 - Target Audience:
 - Families & couples interested in outdoor activities, shopping, dining, arts and culture.
 - Target Geography:
 - 5 Boroughs of NYC & CT Counties of: Harford, New Haven, Litchfield, Fairfield



Tourism and Tilly Foster

Tourism and Tilly Foster are a Natural Fit

- The Analytics Are Clear!
 - Results:
 - 50.41% increase in Clicks from Fall 2021
 Campaign (Display Marketing)
 - 9.34% increase in Clicks from Fall Campaign (Email Marketing)
 - Potential visitors spent an average of over
 6 minutes reading about Putnam County.



Tourism and Tilly Foster







Louis Riolo

Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES
Assistant Superintendent

Catherine Balestrieri

Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES
Director of Career & Technical Education



- BOCES offers both Culinary & Animal Care Programs at Tilly Foster
 - Offered in three sessions
 - 8am 10am
 - 10am 12pm
 - 12pm 2pm







Culinary Program

- Learn skills necessary for a career in the food service industry: complete sequence of food preparation from "set-up" to "clean-up"
- Practice safety and sanitation standards
- Follow and convert recipes, measure ingredients, use commercial equipment, apply cooking methods
- Plant and grow vegetables in fall harvest
- Serve 4-course meal to community in student run restaurants





Animal Care Program

- Students will gain skills for employment in Vet's office, farm hand assistant, pet stores, grooming assistants, Zoo's, wildlife centers, dog sitters and walkers
- Animal Safety how to approach a pet or livestock safely
- Animal Nutrition walk through the feed room so the students can see the importance of why food should be separated for different animals
- Animal Rights and Laws fishing
- Conservation picking up litter and creating endangered species signs
- Animal Behavior bird watching, observing behavior of the farm animals, dog training, identifying and following tracks to understand why the animal was moving from point A to point B









Our History

Deep Agriculture Roots

1944 – Putnam County

 Linking university research, knowledge and experiential learning to the needs/issues of County

"Practical information on practically

everything"





Knowledge Areas

- Community & Economic vitality
- Protect & enhance the environment
- Sustainable agriculture
- Individual & community health
- Preparing youth for the future
- Strengthening families





Opportunities

- Farm/Agribusiness
 Summit
- Master Gardener Plant
 Sale
- Open House on the Farm
- Grow the Rainbow
- The Pollinators screening
- Sustainable beekeeping
- Putnam Pollinator
 Pathway



The Cornell Connection to Tilly Foster Collaborations

- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Putnam County
 - Department of Health
 - Highways/Facilities
 - Parks Department
 - Planning Department
 - Soil and Water
 - Tourism Department







Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Putnam County

The Cornell Connection to Tilly Foster Future Offerings

- Food Forest
- Hybrid Food Hub
- Incubator Kitchen
- Regenerative farming
- Composting Demo
- Food Preservation
 Classes
- Sugar Shack Demo
- Zero Energy
 Greenhouse



