

Agriculture Development Next Generation Farmer Program

The Next Generation Farmer Program was established in May 2024 as an agriculture development initiative of the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) to provide support for the next generation of farming in New Jersey.

This support includes helping next generation farmers from all backgrounds address the challenges they face when getting started, advancing, and establishing or diversifying their operations. It also includes helping established farmers adapt their operations to create a more profitable “next generation” of their farm business, as well as assisting with succession planning to guide the transition of the farm from one generation to the next.

The Next Gen Program is not intended to duplicate existing programs but rather to collaborate with partners, help coordinate efforts, and fill in the gaps in support.



Current Program Services

- Direct Assistance – Helping next generation and established farmers navigate the NJ agricultural industry through resource referral, technical assistance, and network connections.
- Coordinating NJ Land Link – Maintaining and updating njlandlink.org, the interactive website where farmers and landowners can connect regarding farmland and farming opportunities available/sought.
- Collaborating with Partners – Supporting existing next gen related programs and creating new resources.
- New Support – Developing new programs/resources, as recommended by the Next Gen Report.

The Next Generation of Farming in NJ—Policy Report

In March 2025, the SADC adopted the Next Gen Program report, [The Next Generation of Farming in New Jersey: Report on Cultivating the Future of Farming in the Garden State](#). Based on extensive outreach to the agricultural community, the report summarizes the challenges faced by the next generation of farmers and farm businesses and provides recommendations for addressing the challenges, filling gaps in programming, and enhancing support. Many of these recommendations could help foster agriculture development throughout the state.



The report outlines a total of 67 recommendations, which are also summarized in an easy to read fact sheet (scan QR code).

Visit www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/nextgen for a copy of the fact sheet and full report.



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Development of the Next Gen Program—New Services

Using the recommendations in the report as a guide, the Next Gen Program is in the process of developing and implementing new programs and services to support New Jersey's farmers, as well as collaborating with partners to enhance and expand their programs.

Some current efforts include working to develop new land access opportunities, hosting educational and networking events for farmers, compiling agricultural vendors and service providers into a centralized resource, supporting farmers working on farm transfer plans, expanding SADC Agriculture Development Grants for preserved farms, and exploring options for farm mentorship and apprenticeship programs.

Getting Support / Getting Involved

If you need help, have questions, or would like to partner on the development of new programs and resources, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We are happy to provide assistance to farmers from all backgrounds and are interested in working with a wide range of stakeholders, including next generation farmers, established farmers looking to modify their operations, veterans interested in farming and urban farmers.

Contact Us

Please contact SADC Agriculture Development/Next Gen Program staff with any questions:

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For More Information

- Visit www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/nextgen or contact Brendon Pearsall and Jessica Brandeisky for more information about agriculture development and the Next Generation Farmer Program.
- Sign up for SADC Constant Contact Email Updates at <https://forms.office.com/g/H4tXRy6HTY>.
- Follow @New Jersey Farmland Preservation on:



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