

## Calendar of Events

kim@foodsystemsnetwork.org

October 16, 2024

### **Finding Your Future in Food Systems, Oct 16**

**This is a virtual event.**

06:00 PM - 07:00 PM EST

*In this popular series, NAFSN provides participants with insights and connections to help them identify next steps for their careers in community food systems.*

*This four-part series for Fall 2024 highlights job creators and others across the food systems profession. This webinar series is offered free of charge and open to the public.*

*This specific episode features a panel of organic farmers and is sponsored by the Organic Farmers Association.*

*In this episode, we feature:*

*Dawn Spears, Farmer, Ashawaug Farm*

*Ashawaug Farm is six acres of organically cultivated crops growing alongside woodlands and wild-growing fruits and herbs, rooted in rich Narragansett silt loam soil. The Farm sells a variety of products at their farmstand and at local farmers' markets, including heirloom and culturally significant crops. The land is protected by Dawn and Cassius Spears with the help of their children, grandchildren, and extended community of supporters. Both Dawn and Cassius are active members of the Narragansett Tribe.*

*Dawn Spears is a multimedia artist whose work is infused with cultural symbolism and the vibrant colors of our natural world, and farming is part of her art. She also supports the Indigenous artist community through facilitating art markets and other opportunities that increase the visibility and vitality of Indigenous arts and culture. Currently, Dawn is the Director of the Northeast Indigenous Agriculture and Arts Alliance.*

*Dawn and Cassius also run the Ashawaug Project, the educational initiative of Ashawaug Farm, which integrates art and agriculture to expand knowledge of Narragansett foodways, support community health and cultural revitalization, and promote food sovereignty.*

**LOCATION:** Ashaway, RI

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*Jared Krawitz, Farmer, Closter Farm & Livestock Co.*

*Jared came to farming relatively late in life. After cooking in NYC, he moved to North Carolina where he apprenticed at Fickle Creek Farm, learning the basics of low-stress animal management, rotational grazing, pasture health, crop planning, market gardening, and much more. After the apprenticeship, he moved to Hopewell, NJ to manage the poultry program at Double Brook Farm. When the opportunity came up to start Closter Farm, Jared jumped at the chance to rejuvenate a piece of land in an amazing community.*

*LOCATION: Closter, NJ*  
*\*\*\**

*TBD \_\_\_\_ Farm*

*I graduated fro*

*LOCATION: TBD*

October 22, 2024

## **Finding Your Future in Food Systems, Oct 22, 2024**

**This is a virtual event.**

06:00 PM - 07:00 PM EST

*In this popular series, NAFSN provides participants with insights and connections to help them identify next steps for their careers in community food systems.*

*This four-part series for Fall 2024 highlights job creators and others across the food systems profession. This webinar series is offered free of charge and open to the public.*

*In this episode, we feature:*

*Dhalia Bumbaca, Co-Founder and CEO, WellFed Community*

*Ashawaug Farm is six acres of organically cultivated crops growing alongside woodlands and wild-growing fruits and herbs, rooted in rich Narragansett silt loam soil. The Farm sells a variety of products at their farmstand and at local farmers' markets, including heirloom and culturally significant crops. The land is protected by Dawn and Cassius Spears with the help of their children, grandchildren, and extended community of supporters. Both Dawn and Cassius are active members of the Narragansett Tribe.*

*Dawn Spears is a multimedia artist whose work is infused with cultural symbolism and the vibrant colors of our natural world, and farming is part of her art. She also supports the Indigenous artist community through facilitating art markets and other opportunities that increase the visibility and vitality of Indigenous arts and culture. Currently, Dawn is the Director of the Northeast Indigenous Agriculture and Arts Alliance.*

*Dawn and Cassius also run the Ashawaug Project, the educational initiative of Ashawaug Farm, which integrates art and agriculture to expand knowledge of Narragansett foodways, support community health and cultural revitalization, and promote food sovereignty.*

**LOCATION: Ashaway, RI**

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*Jared Krawitz, Farmer, Closter Farm & Livestock Co.*

*Jared came to farming relatively late in life. After cooking in NYC, he moved to North Carolina where he apprenticed at Fickle Creek Farm, learning the basics of low-stress animal management, rotational grazing, pasture health, crop planning, market gardening, and much more. After the apprenticeship, he moved to Hopewell, NJ to manage the poultry program at Double Brook Farm. When the opportunity came up to start Closter Farm, Jared jumped at the chance to rejuvenate a piece of land in an amazing community.*

**LOCATION: Closter, NJ**

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**TBD \_\_\_\_ Farm**

*I graduated fro*

LOCATION: TBD

October 24, 2024

**CARAT Information Session**

**This is a virtual event.**

12:00 PM - 01:00 PM EST

*The North American Food Systems Network has released CARAT as a free, open-access resource.*

*The Community & Agriculture Resilience Audit Tool (CARAT) helps community stakeholders assess how they currently utilize the assets of their local food system to achieve a substantial level of community resilience.*

*CARAT measures the resources within a food system via 101 indicators to determine possible next steps to increase community resiliency and food sovereignty.*

*To learn more, please consider attending one of our free CARAT Informational Sessions.*

November 6, 2024

**NAFSN Leadership Circle Meeting, Nov 6**

**This is a virtual event.**

12:00 PM - 01:30 PM EST

*All members are welcome to attend NAFSN's monthly Leadership Circle meetings, led by Co-Directors Natalie Cruz & Kim Hines, with guidance from the NAFSN Advisory Board.*

November 18, 2024

**CARAT Information Session (for those in Maryland)**

**This is a virtual event.**

12:00 PM - 07:00 PM EST

*The North American Food Systems Network has released CARAT as a free, open-access resource.*

*The Community & Agriculture Resilience Audit Tool (CARAT) helps community stakeholders assess how they currently utilize the assets of their local food system to achieve a substantial level of community resilience.*

*CARAT measures the resources within a food system via 101 indicators to determine possible next steps to increase community resiliency and food sovereignty.*

*This session will specifically be for those representing communities in Maryland who may be interested in using the tool.*

November 19, 2024

### **ACRE Information Session**

**This is a virtual event.**

03:00 PM - 04:00 PM EST

*Are you interested in becoming a trained food systems facilitator?*

*Or, are you looking for an affordable & practical professional development opportunity for your staff with lasting impact?*

*Join us for a free Information Session on ACRE.*

*AgriCluster Resilience and Expansion - or ACRE for short - is a professionally-facilitated strategic planning process to help groups of farmers, especially those in value-chains, work together and compete more effectively.*

*The ACRE Facilitator Training program provides instruction specifically designed for food and agriculture systems professionals to facilitate and guide the ACRE Process with farmers and other community stakeholders in the values-based development of more resilient food value chains.*

*In the ACRE Information Session, you'll learn about the training course, and the community of practice employing ACRE in their food/ag communities.*

December 4, 2024

### **CARAT Information Session**

**This is a virtual event.**

02:00 PM - 03:00 PM EST

*The North American Food Systems Network has released CARAT as a free, open-access resource.*

*The Community & Agriculture Resilience Audit Tool (CARAT) helps community stakeholders assess how they currently utilize the assets of their local food system to achieve a substantial level of community resilience.*

*CARAT measures the resources within a food system via 101 indicators to determine possible next steps to increase community resiliency and food sovereignty.*

*To learn more, please consider attending one of our CARAT Informational Sessions.*

December 10, 2024

### **ACRE Community of Practice Meeting**

**This is a virtual event.**

02:00 PM - 07:00 PM EST

*The ACRE Community of Practice will hold its quarterly gathering on December 10, 2024, 2pm-3pm ET.*

*This event is an excellent opportunity for connecting with other ACRE facilitators, sharing how you're using ACRE facilitation in your community, and learning how others are applying it in theirs.*