



# USDA Northeast Climate Hub Update

- The Northeast Hub completed and USDA published on June 23<sup>rd</sup> the “Northeast Regional Climate Hub Assessment of Climate Change Vulnerability, Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies”. This study was a collaboration between USDA and various university partners, especially Dan Tobin at Penn State.
- The Northeast Hub Land Grant University Partners carried out a survey of over 6,000 Northeast LGU Researchers and Extension personnel to determine Climate Adaptation knowledge, strategies, and limitations. Rama Radhakrishna presented preliminary results to participants at the Climate Science Learning Network (CS-LN) Advisory Board meeting (this group is developing content for the Hubs) and to the NE Climate Hub. Results will be used to inform the next stages of the NE Hub outreach strategy.
- The Hub advertised for a full-time NE Hub Specialist (Forest Service permanent employee) with anticipation of the new hire in place by end of July.
- The Hub coordinated and submitted a collaborative NIFA proposal that would create an undergraduate corps of Climate Adaptation Interns across the NE states.
- The Hub set up new partnership agreements with the University of District Columbia, and the three 1890’s LGUs in the Northeast.
- USDA staff visited with most Northeast State LGU Experiment Station and Extension Staffs to learn more about programs and capabilities and to develop further Hub collaborations.
- The USDA has institutionalized the Hubs, bringing staffing up to at least 4 FTEs per region.
- The University of Maryland and others from the Hub will be hosting a Greenhouse gas mitigation meeting for the Northeast next winter in Beltsville, MD.
- The Hub is working with additional groups including State Climatologists and NRCS state representatives to develop materials and deliver content.
- Hub summer interns Isabelle Gorham (NH) and Luke Blair (PA) have started projects interviewing farmers and forest land owners about climate resilience.
- The Hub focus for the upcoming year will be synthesizing adaptation material and linking better with Extension and other outreach components. We anticipate holding an “NE Adaptation Forum” for LGU partners and others early next year.