FARM FRESH ORGANIC FOOD, FINE TEA & MAPLE SYRUP WEEKEND* Saturday: September 14, 2013 & Sunday: September 15, 2013

Come and celebrate the bounty of the fall season when you board the Dutchess County Farm Fresh Link shuttle at Wassaic Station (Harlem Valley Line) for excursions to the charming **Village of Millerton, McEnroe Organic Farm, and Madava Farms,** all located in the scenic Hudson Valley.

This itinerary begins with a stopover in Millerton, home to the internationally acclaimed **Harney & Sons Fine Teas (www.harney.com)**. Step into the charming tea store and tasting room for a "cuppa" or cross the street for an up-close look at handcrafted art glass by Gilmor Glassworks. Stroll through the pastoral village shops and choose one of several lunch locations (a coffeehouse/restaurant, a diner, Mexican or Chinese food, vegetarian...there's something for everyone).. On Saturdays, until 1 pm enjoy the Millerton Farmer's Market at the Railroad Plaza across from the Rail Trail. (www.neccmillerton.org/farmers.htm.)

Your next stop of the day will give you the chance to check out the best that Mother Nature provides at **McEnroe Organic Farm (www.mcenroeorganicfarm.com)**, where you'll learn first-hand about organic farming and composting. You'll tour the more than 1000 acres and see cows, turkeys, llamas, fields of vegetables, and greenhouses. McEnroe Organic Farm is committed to organic and sustainable agriculture. The farm produces certified organic produce, meats and garden transplants. At the end of your tour peruse the gourmet delicacies at the full-service farm market and bring home some special treats.

Your last stop will complete the day with a visit to **Madava Farms, the Home of Crown Maple syrup**, (www.crownmaple.com) a new 800-acre culinary and nature destination. Crown Maple produces delicious maple products including "quite possibly the purest syrup on Earth, " which has been featured in everything from **Food & Wine** to the **2013 Presidential Inaugural Luncheon**. You can tour the modern, state-of-the-art sugarhouse and tasting room and then taste for yourself why Crown Maple's syrup is praised by chefs and culinary fans worldwide. Next walk scenic trails or take a stroll in Madava Farms' working chef garden, which supplies some of New York's top restaurants. You'll see uncommon crop varieties and exceptional heirloom species. Before you go, stop by *The Farm Stand* for maple, produce and to savor a sandwich or pastry from Madava's Culinary Institute of America-trained chef, Jacob Griffin. Go home armed with everything you need to inspire your own culinary creations.

The Dutchess County Farm Fresh Link shuttle will stay with you all day, transporting you to the various locations and bringing you back to the Wassaic Station(using the Harlem Valley Line) for the return trip home. **Reservations for the Dutchess County Farm Fresh Link** shuttle **are required in advance by calling 800-445-3131.** <u>Reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance and confirmed before you purchase a train ticket. Shuttle seats are limited, and tours frequently sell out, you must have a reservation.</u> Once you've made your reservation, purchase your rail and shuttle ticket at any Metro-North station with a ticket office, or at any full-service ticket machine (except Beacon Station) or online thru WebTicket at <u>www.mta.info.com</u>. Tickets and shuttle reservations are non-refundable.

For more information about these itinerary stops and other agricultural and culinary destinations throughout Dutchess County, please visit <u>www.farmfresh.dutchesstourism.com</u>. *Dutchess County Tourism has the right to substitute a farm or related itinerary stop to ensure the quality of the overall program and the individual getaway experience.