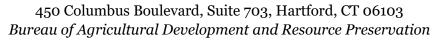


### CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE





#### **FARMLAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD**

# MEETING AGENDA Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 10:50am

Held remotely through Cisco WebEx Meetings A link is provided on the FPAB webpage

9:00	Introduction – inspirational message – invitation for others to present (Robin)
9:10	Approve previous meeting minutes - 06/17/2021 (Robin)
9:15	Farmland Preservation Programs Report (Cam)
9:25	Report on Commissioner Hurlburt's feedback on OPAV recommendation (Robin, Jiff)
9:45	Discussion re: subcommittees, special topic sessions, and meeting schedule (Robin)
10:00	Discussion, Q & A – new, draft Agricultural Lands Preservation Regulations (Cam,
Carol,	Kayleigh)
10:50	Close (Robin)

### CONNECTICUT DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

## **Farmland Preservation Programs Report**

Cam Weimar, August 2021

**Preserved Farmland (in Fee & PDR):** 389 Farms 46,376 acres (incl. Savin & Southbury)

Farmlands Under Agreement 21 Farms 1,780 acres \$ 7,901,935

Total Farms Preserved or w/ Agrmt: 410 Farms 48,156 acres

Additional, eligible & active applics: 42 Farms 3,100 acres \$ 16,469,200

Total eligible & active PDR applics: 63 Farms 4,880 acres \$ 24,371,135

**Current Funding Balances:** PDR Comm. Invest. Act, as of 08/19: \$ 4,641,729

PDR Alloted Bond Funds, as of 08/20\*: \$ 4,461,066 (includes pending PDRs)

PDR & ACE Farms Preserved					total funds		State funds		USDA-ALE (& #s)			<u>Local</u>		
CY 2016	15 farms	1,562	acres	\$	6,714,044	\$	5,591,266	\$	819,269	3	\$	303,509		
CY 2017	16 farms	1,850	acres	\$	6,023,494	\$	4,192,797	\$	1,606,500	3	\$	224,197		
CY 2018	15 farms	1,378	acres	\$	8,244,534	\$	4,767,387	\$	2,428,537	8	\$	1,048,610		
CY 2019	8 farms	773	acres	\$	4,673,802	\$	2,259,340	\$	1,980,125	6	\$	434,337		
CY 2020	13 farms	1,015	acres	\$	5,736,029	\$	3,020,963	\$	2,227,167	10	\$	487,899		
CY 2021 so far	3 farms	235	acres	\$	4,243,044	\$	954,844	\$	2,057,697	3	\$	1,230,503		
CY 2021 cost-share contribution %:							23%		48%			29%		
avg. per acre cost:						\$	4,072	\$	8,775		\$	5,247		
Past 5 years:	70 farms	6,813	acres	\$	35,634,947	\$	20,786,597	\$	11,119,295	33	\$	3,729,055		

### Barney Orchard, Easton protected in June; Backiel Farms 1 & 2, Rocky Hill protected in August

Expect 1 more PDR closing in Aug., 2 in Sept. and 2 in Oct. Received obligated ALE FY 2021 funding for 13 PDRs (4 w/ CFT)

Community Farms Preservation Program (CFPP) - CGS Sec. 22-26nn

Preserved: 12 farms 638 acres \$ 5,244,320 Active: 46 3,284 acres \$ 17,989,750

**Farmland Restoration Grant Program (FLRP)** 

343 applications est. total costs: \$ 11,446,900 est. grant costs: \$ 4,706,489

Averages/estimates: \$ 38,870 /project \$ 3,599 /cost/acre 2,862 ac. total to be restored

\$ 15,553 /grant \$ 1,440 /grant cost/acre 10.8 ac./grant to be restored

- Awarded 23 FLRP grants for CY 2021 competitive round -

#### **Farmland Use Permits and Leases**

Savin Agric. Presv.— leases w/ 5 year terms (2016-2021); Southbury Farms Presv.— 5 Agric. Permits w/ 10 year terms (2017-2027); Dept. of Corrections Farmland— 4 Agric. Permits w/ 5-year terms (2017-2022)

**Connecticut Farmlink Program** balance as of 08/19: \$254,477

Connecticut Farmland Trust and Land For Good partnerships for ctfarmlink.org website, one-on-one farmer consultations, education & outreach to beginning farmers & farmlandowners