



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 703, Hartford, CT 06103
Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation



FARMLAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 21st

9:00 – 10:50am

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

- 9:00 Introduction – inspirational message – (Elisabeth)
- 9:10 Approve previous meeting minutes - 08/26/2021 (Robin)
- 9:15 Report on OPAV status (Robin)
- 9:20 Discussion re: subcommittees, special topic sessions, and meeting schedule (Robin)
- 9:30 ****Executive Session**** 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, Oct. 2021

Preserved Farmland (in Fee & PDR):	394 Farms	46,877 acres	(incl. Savin & Southbury)
Farmlands Under Agreement	17 Farms	1,367 acres	\$ 6,936,100
Total Farms Preserved or w/ Agrmt:	411 Farms	48,244 acres	
Additional, eligible & active applics:	39 Farms	2,432 acres	\$ 13,817,850
Total eligible & active PDR applics:	56 Farms	3,799 acres	\$ 20,753,950

Current Funding Balances:	PDR Comm. Invest. Act, as of 10/08 :	\$ 3,650,427
	PDR Alloted Bond Funds, as of 10/18:	\$ 4,461,066 (includes pending PDRs)

PDR & ACE Farms Preserved			<u>total funds</u>	<u>State funds</u>	<u>USDA-ALE (& #s)</u>	<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	8 farms	735 acres	\$ 6,122,099	\$ 1,785,644	\$ 3,006,524 7	\$ 1,329,931
CY 2021 cost-share contribution %:				29%	49%	22%
CY 2021 avg. per acre cost:			\$ 8,329	\$ 2,429	\$ 4,091	\$ 1,809
Past 5 years:	75 farms	7,313 acres	\$ 37,514,002	\$ 21,617,397	\$ 12,068,122 37	\$ 3,828,483

Bahler Oakridge Dairy 3, Gallup Dairy 1, and Christoferson protected in October

Expect 2 PDR closings in Nov. and 2 in Dec.

Received obligated ALE FY 2021 funding for 13 PDRs (4 w/ CFT)

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

Preserved:	15 farms	1014 acres	\$ 6,406,888	Active: 46	2,989 acres	\$ 17,086,750
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PDR Stewardship - Outreach, Farm Visits, & Enforcement

The Farmland Presv. Program is close to visiting every PDR preserved farm within CY 2021. Several issues on older PDRs

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 10/08: \$239,046

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