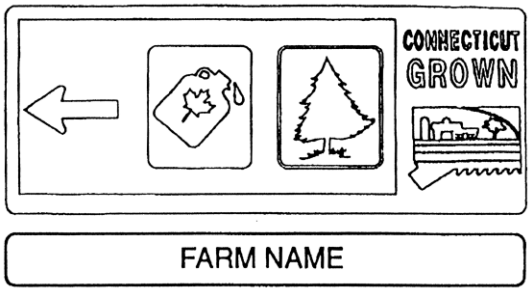
AGRICULTURAL DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE



The Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation is promoting a program to assist in the development and enhancement of Connecticut agriculture. The *Agricultural Directional Signage* (ADS) program allows for the placement of directional signs along state roads for farms located off those roadways. The ADS program assists growers in the sale of their products by advertising the location of their farm.

A permit for sign placement is required and can be obtained for a one time fee of $50.00, refunded if a permit application is denied. A permit will be issued using the following guidelines:

1. Directional signs are allowed only on state roads. Signs shall not be erected on limited access roadways or for farms which have frontage on a state highway;

2. *Only* farms selling Connecticut grown products are eligible for signage and farmers must be engaged in agriculture as a trade or business;

3. Signs will be uniform in size, color and lettering and must be placed within 5 miles of the farm;

4. Farms must have regular hours of operation open to the public, at least 5 days a week and 7 hours a day, on either a seasonal or year-round basis;

5. Standardized commodity symbols indicating the principle type or types of product being sold will be used on the directional signs. The signs may also include the name of the farm;

6. Costs associated with the making, installation, maintenance and liability of the signs is the responsibility of the farmer permit holder(s);

7. Trailblazing signs are required for farms located more than one turn from the state road and must be in place prior to installation of the state road sign;

8. Permits are subject to annual review by the Department of Agriculture;

9. Farm stands are not eligible for this program *unless* they are located on a farm and the **products being sold are exclusively produced** on the farm

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Public safety shall have priority over the placement of any sign authorized under this program. The Department of Transportation reserves the right to adjust, relocate or remove any sign erected in the highway right-of-way.

The permit holder(s) is/are required to maintain the minimum standards for use of directional signs as established by the Department of Agriculture. Any deviation from the guidelines and standards. May result in revocation of the permit and removal of the directional sign.

Erection and maintenance of any sign in the state highway right-of-way requires issuance of an encroachment permit by the Department of Transportation. Application for the encroachment permit will be submitted by the sign contractor *after* the Department of Agriculture approves the initial application for the directional sign. All sign work will be in conformance with the requirements of the encroachment permit.

Only standardized signs, approved by the Department of Agriculture, will be allowed. Other farms qualified under the rules of this program may be granted permission to erect additional signs on existing assemblies. The placement of additional signs or attachments to the main sign assembly, other than those approved by the Department of Agriculture or the Department of Transportation, is strictly prohibited and could result in revocation of the sign permit and removal of the directional sign.

Farm name signs can only be used as an addition to the main directional sign. The placement of farm name signs alone is not permitted.

The addition of farm names to existing signs will require payment of an equal proportional cost share of the original sign to the original permittee. Application for new signs, with more than one farm name, will require equal cost sharing of the sign.

For additional information, please contact:

Michael Wolf
Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation
Connecticut Department of Agriculture,
450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 703
Hartford, Connecticut 06103
Telephone: (860) 786-9567
Email: Michael.wolf@ct.gov

AGRICULTURAL DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE - Permit Application

1. Name _____
   Email _____
   Farm Name _____
   Address _____
   Farm Address, if different _____
   Phone (business) __(_____)_____(home) __(_____)_____
2. Nature and Type of Agricultural Operation: _____
   _____
3. Quantity and Type of Products Produced and Sold: _____
   _____
4. Product(s) you want advertised on the directional sign (up to two products per sign): _____
   _____
5. Hours of Operation: Days _____
   Hours _____ Months _____
6. Does your town allow the placement of directional signage? Yes _____ No _____
7. Please name the state roadway(s) and local intersecting road where you would like a directional sign placed.
   _____
8. Please indicate the total distance from the state roadway(s) and individual local roads to the farm location.
   Please provide a map diagram indicating location(s). _____

Please use the back of the application for additional space as needed.

I have examined this application, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, complete and correct.

Signature _____ Date: _____

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation, will process your application. After a review of your written application, a site inspection will be conducted. Upon approval of your application, details as to the actual placement of the signage will be provided to you. Applications not approved will be given the opportunity to appeal and a refund of the $50 fee. For more information, please contact the Bureau at (860) 713-2544.

Please return the completed application and a check or money order in the amount of $50.00 made payable to the "Connecticut Department of Agriculture" to: The Connecticut Department of **Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Development and Resource Preservation, 450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 703, Hartford, CT 06103**

For Department of Agriculture Use Only: Date Received _____ Date Sent to DOT _____

Approved _____ Denied _____ Site Inspection Date _____ Comments _____

_____

_____ Date _____

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Directional Signage Program

Application for farm name sub-sign

Farm name only to be listed on sub-sign limited to **24** letters and spaces

Please print:

_____

(farm name as it will appear on sub-sign)

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/Town:_____ Zip: _____

Telephone: Work ( )_____ home ( )_____

FAX: ( )_____

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