

## Appendix A - Agriculture

### *Existing Local, State, and Federal Agricultural Programs*

#### *Federal Programs*

- Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA): Provides cost-share payments to producers who voluntarily address issues of water quality, water management, and erosion control through the incorporation of conservation. Contact your local conservation district office at 603-679-2790 in Rockingham County; 603-673-2409 in Hillsborough County; or 603-223-6023 in Merrimack County.
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP): Voluntary cost-sharing program with the USDA for projects such as erosion control, pasture management, watering systems, and Integrated Pest Management. As one of New Hampshire's largest sources of federal conservation funding, EQIP can provide up to 75 percent of project cost as well as technical assistance. Contact your local conservation district office at 603-679-2790 in Rockingham County; 603-673-2409 in Hillsborough County; or 603-223-6023 in Merrimack County; or visit <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/>.
- Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) A voluntary conservation initiative that enables the use of certain conservation programs along with resource of eligible partners to provide financial and technical assistance to owners and operators of agricultural and nonindustrial private forest lands. Eligible producers located in an approved project area may submit an application for any of the following available programs, which may be approved for assistance: Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) or Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP). For more information about this program visit: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/ccpi/>
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) - CSP rewards farmers who are good conservation stewards of their land, and offers compensation for enhancements.
- Conservation Innovation Grants: Awards grants using EQIP funds to non-governmental organizations and individuals for innovative conservation programs and technologies that address natural resource concerns. For more information, contact Kim McCracken, Resource Conservationist, at 603-868-9931, ext. 123; or Gary Domian, Assistant State Conservationist, at 603-868-9931, ext. 105.
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) A voluntary program for agricultural landowners. Through CRP, individuals can receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland. More information is available at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=copr&topic=crp>
- Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP): Establishes partnerships with state and local governments and non-profit agencies to purchase conservation easements on farm and ranch land. Requests for proposals go out in December with proposals due in April. Contact Steve Hundley, FRPP Program Manager at 603-868-7581 or visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/frpp/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/frpp/).

- Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP): Provides assistance to restore or improve wildlife habitats on agricultural property with up to 75 percent financial support. Contact Priscilla Johnston at 603-868-7581 or visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/).
- National Conservation Buffer Initiative (NCBI): Provides technical and financial support for farmers to create buffer zones on their properties to maintain healthy, productive farms. Visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/buffers/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/feature/buffers/) for more information.
- NH Conservation Security Program (CSP): Provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, and plant and animal life on agricultural operations. Visit <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/> for guidelines, deadlines, and workbooks about the CSP.
- Conservation of Private Grazing Land (CPGL): Provides technical, educational, and related assistance to protect, sustain, and innovate privately owned grazing lands. This is not a cost-share program. Contact Rick Ellsmore at 679-1587, ext. 101; or Deb Weymouth at 603-673-2409, ext. 4.
- Grassland Reserve Program (GRP): Provides permanent and temporary easements, rental agreements, and restoration agreements for grasslands and shrublands to help landowners to protect, restore, and enhance their property. Contact Jim Spielman, NRCS Program Specialist, at 603-868-7581 or visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/GRP/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/GRP/).

#### *State Programs*

- Agricultural Promotion Mini-Grant Program: Marketing grant for agricultural organizations wishing to promote some segment of agriculture in New Hampshire. Provides a matching grant of up to \$500 for an organization (<http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/programs/index.htm>).
- Agricultural Nutrient Management Program: Applicant can get up to 2500 for projects that involve best management practices to prevent or mitigate water pollution (<http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/programs/index.htm>).
- Integrated Pest Management Program: Awards up to \$5000 to applicant projects that best utilize an approach to pest management in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks (<http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/programs/index.htm>).
- New Hampshire Cooperative Extension: This federal, state, and county-funded agency provides a representative to each county and offers workshops and technical assistance for local agricultural producers (<http://www.extension.unh.edu>).
- New Hampshire Farm to School Program (NH FTS): Connects NH farms and schools by integrating agricultural production, school food procurement, and school curriculum. Farmers can participate by selling food to school Food Service Directors, offering tours to school groups, and participating in Harvest Celebrations ([www.nhfarmtoschool.org](http://www.nhfarmtoschool.org)).
- New Hampshire Farm to Restaurant Connection (NHFRC): Promotes partnership between farms and restaurants to strengthen agricultural communities and educate consumers about locally grown food. Also sponsors Growers' Dinner events at restaurants throughout the state serving local food ([www.nhfarmtorestaurant.com](http://www.nhfarmtorestaurant.com)).

- New Hampshire Coalition for Sustaining Agriculture: A virtual organization of agricultural agencies and non-profit organizations, the Coalition promotes sustainable agriculture through projects that help agricultural operations and municipalities. Contact Nada Haddad at 679-1616.
- New Hampshire Stories, Inc.: With over 600 members statewide, this company focuses on cost-effective marketing, selling, and business support services including common brand identity marketing, website advertising on nhmade.com, establishment and promotion of two retail stores, and a consumer guide of member products and services.
- New Hampshire Farmers' Market Association (NHFMA): Promotes farmers' markets in the state and facilitate the production and sales of local food (<http://www.nhfma.org/>).

#### *Local Programs*

- Beginning Farmers of New Hampshire: This is a network of farmers with the goal of helping small and beginner farmers, connecting farmers with the community, sharing ideas and information, accessing technical assistance and agricultural education, and boosting the agricultural industry and economy of New Hampshire. The organization has chapters in Hillsborough, Rockingham, and Merrimack Counties ([www.beginnerfarmers.org](http://www.beginnerfarmers.org)).

#### ***Resources***

Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. 2005. "New Hampshire Farm and Farm-Related Employment." Accessed on [http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/FarmandRelatedEmployment/ViewData.asp?GeoAreaPick=STANH\\_new+hampshire](http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/FarmandRelatedEmployment/ViewData.asp?GeoAreaPick=STANH_new+hampshire) on 1 August.

Marchand, Lois. 2004. "Money for open spaces is scarce." *Eagle Tribune*. 9 May.

National Agricultural Statistics Service. 2011. *2007 Census of Agriculture*. Accessed on <http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/> on 15 February.

New England Agricultural Statistics. 2007. *2007 Census of Agriculture-State Data*. "Table 2: Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold, Direct Sales: 2007"

New England Environmental Horticulture Economic Industry Survey. 2003.

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture. 2005. "Farmland Protection." [http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/topics/farmland\\_protection.htm](http://www.agriculture.nh.gov/topics/farmland_protection.htm), accessed on 1 August.

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Food and Markets. 2007. "New Hampshire Agricultural Statistics" <http://www.nh.gov/agric/publications/documents/2007AgriculturalStatistics.pdf>

New Hampshire Geographically Referenced Analysis and Information Transfer System (NH GRANIT). 2001. *New Hampshire Land Cover Assessment Data—2001*. Distributed through the U.S. Fish and Game Department. Durham, NH: Complex Systems Research Center, University of New Hampshire.

Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. 2005. "Farmland Today." *New Hampshire's Changing Landscape*. Accessed on <http://www.spnhf.org/research/papers/nhcl2005es.pdf> 1 August 2005.

Sustainable Agriculture through Research and Education. 2005. "What is Sustainable Agriculture?" *Exploring Sustainability in Agriculture Bulletin*. Accessed on <http://www.sare.org/publications/explore/index.htm>, 1 August, 2005.

The Wire New Hampshire. 2010. "A New Crop of Farmhands" Accessed on <http://www.wirenh.com/food-mainmenu-56/29-food-general/4368-a-new-crop-of-farmhands.html> 01 September 2010

### **Master Plans Addressing Agricultural Sustainability**

Town of Chester Master Plan, March 1997

Deerfield Master Plan, November 10, 1999

Town of Derry Master Plan Update, December 30, 2002

Goffstown Master Plan, October 9, 1997

Town of Londonderry Master Plan, November 10, 2004

Town of Weare Master Plan Update, March 24, 2002

### **Additional Contact Information**

Natural Resources Conservation Services  
NRCS and Hillsborough County Conservation District  
Chappell Professional Center  
#468, Route 13, South  
Milford, NH 03055-3476  
Phone 603-673-2409 Ext. #4  
Fax 603-673-0597

Rockingham County Conservation District  
110 North Road  
Brentwood, NH 03833-6614  
Phone 603-679-2790  
Fax 603-679-2860

New Hampshire NRCS  
243 Calef Highway, Telly's Plaza  
Epping, NH 03042-2326

Phone 603-679-1587

Fax 603-679-4658

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food

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UNH Cooperative Extension

<http://www.extension.unh.edu>

Hillsborough County

Suite 101

329 Mast Road

Goffstown, NH 03045-2422

Phone: 603-641-6060

Rockingham County

113 North Road

Brentwood, NH 03833

Phone: 603-679-8070