

Department of Agriculture's Work Across Massachusetts *Suffolk County*

\$209,165 in Senior Farmer's Market, WIC Coupons and Homebound Distribution – WIC coupons are provided, and vouchers are distributed, to seniors who can travel to a farmer's market, and a delivery service is provided to homebound seniors to help them purchase fresh, local products.

30 Farmers' Markets – Farmers' markets are one of our best tools for preserving farmland, economically viable small business, and a healthy population. They connect farmers with consumers. MDAR provides assistance with market organization, promotion, and regulatory compliance.

Our Farms:

There are 7 farms in Suffolk County working 99 acres to produce \$212,000 in products. The average farm produces \$30,214 of agricultural products on just 14 acres.

248 Schools and 357 daycares with MDAR Approved Integrated

Pest Management (IPM) Plans – IPM is a tool for reducing to a minimum the risk associated with pesticides in our schools and daycares. MDAR assists in the creation and submission of the plans as mandated by Massachusetts General Laws, and makes those available to the public for review.

178 Pesticide Applicator Licenses – MDAR licenses and regulates all commercial pesticide applicators in the state. Licensing requires extensive testing and continuing education credits. This includes all lawn and landscaping applications as well as indoor pest control applications.

26 Schools Participating in the Farm-to-School Program – MDAR works with public and private schools (K-12), colleges, and universities to help facilitate purchases of local agricultural products.

14 Animal Adoption Centers and Pet Rescues/ 7 Pet Shops – Operations that are authorized by MDAR are subject to inspections and are under MDAR regulatory oversight.

8 Horse Riding Instruction Licenses – all stables are inspected and licensed by MDAR, and all instructors undergo testing prior to licensing.