

HSAP Working Group

Kickoff Meeting - May 16th, 2019

Project Overview

The healthy soils action plan for Massachusetts is a blueprint for improving farming, forestry and lawn care practices across the Commonwealth to reduce erosion, improve production, reduce carbon emissions, increase carbon storage in our soils and better withstand intensive weather events and droughts.

Work Group Meeting Objectives

- Establish a shared understanding of the purpose, objectives, and potential of the Healthy Soils Action Plan
- Establish a shared definition of healthy soils
- Introduce the Project Team and their approach to this planning process
- Make clear the purpose, roles, and responsibilities of the HSAP Working Group
- Contextualize the project both globally and regionally

Agenda

10:00 - 10:15 Networking

10:15 - 10:25 Official Start - Opening question (Jim Newman)

10:25 - 10:40 Introductions (Jim Newman)

10:40 - 10:55 What is the Healthy Soils Action Plan? (Tom Anderson)

10:55 - 11:40 Planning Methodology, presentation w/ Q+A (Keith Zaltzberg)

11:40 - 12:25 Global Perspective on nature-based solutions for carbon sequestration, and implications for MA, presentation w/ Q+A (Eric Toensmeier)

12:30 - 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 - 1:45 Regional Perspective on effects of climate change on MA soils, presentation w/ Q+A (INVITATION PENDING- Kristen DeAngelis, PhD)

1:45 - 2:30 Breakout Groups - Focused discussion about healthy soils based on broad land use type: definitions, unique challenges, highest potential, and works/initiatives-in-progress (Jim Newman, Keith Zaltzberg, Ian Johnson)

2:30 - 3:00 Reconvene + Wrap-up

Option 1: General discussion of different definitions of healthy soils by land type and owner. (Jim Newman)

Option 2: Policy - *How do we focus our work on the type of influence we are trying to have on the world. What existing or emerging policies/initiatives do we want to align our work with?* (Bob O'Connor)