

State Commission for Conservation of Soil, Water & Related Resources

Regular Meeting

Via Microsoft Teams

October 10, 2024 – 10:00 am

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Approval of Minutes
- Mass Envirothon Council & Committee
 - Update on EEA actions regarding Envirothon program and structure
 - 2024-25 budget (tentatively approved right now. Update with 3-month extension per the Envirothon Steering Committee)
- Farmland Action Plan – presentation from Katharine Otto -MDAR Program Manager

The Plan is a long-range strategic initiative intended to guide actions to ensure that farmland and farming are available and viable for current and future generations in Massachusetts. The Plan is organized around three overlapping goals:

 - Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland. Once farmland has been converted to other land uses, it will never return to agriculture.
 - Increase access to farmland. Enabling farmland accessibility requires equitable, affordable, and identifiable opportunities and options.
 - Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland. Successful farms are one of the best tools for protecting farmland.
- Healthy Soils Action Plan for Massachusetts - updates
 - HSAP Challenge Grant (round 1) (Done, 14 of 15 contracts underway)
 - HSAP Challenge Grant (round 2)
 - Soil Health Coordinator
 - Budget and fiscal update.
- State Commission
 - District Grants
 - Conservation District Grant Program update on FY25 round
- General Business Items
 - Supervisor Appointments if needed (voting item)
- Future Commission meeting dates – January 9, 2025

Adjourn

*If you wish to attend this virtual meeting, please email Tom Anderson, Executive Secretary at Thomas.anderson@mass.gov and he will email you the link.
