

Recent APR Improvement Program (AIP) Recipients

All participants received business planning, financial assistance, and other technical assistance as needed (such as bookkeeping, succession planning, or marketing assistance) before beginning their AIP projects. Grants for capital improvements are reimbursable upon project completion.

2024 Participants

3 of 5 applicants awarded.

Breezy Gardens, Leicester - \$90,000

To construct a driveway and farmstand that will make the farm accessible to pick-your-own and CSA customers, allowing the farm to increase sales while decreasing labor costs.

J & J Farms, Amherst - \$90,000

To renovate a barn for equipment and hay storage and enclose an existing shed building for safe storage of chemicals.

Ziomek Farm, Amherst - \$90,000

To build a new onion storage and packing facility to better store and sell onions throughout the year to increase profitability.

2023 Participants

9 of 11 applicants awarded.

Amherst Nurseries, Hadley/Charlemont - \$120,000

To construct a new barn for the storage of equipment and bare root nursery stock, allowing them to expand production and preserve soil health at their Charlemont location.

Brook's Bend LLC, Montague - \$60,000

To renovate an existing barn. The renovation will secure a safe structure for current flagship lessee Sawmill Herb Farm as well as for future farm lessees while increasing the efficiency of washing and packing produce. The renovated structure will also include equipment storage, a farm office, and space for retail sales.

Chase Hill Farm, Warwick - \$120,000

To complete a heavy use area and manure management structure, construct an additional hay storage barn, and repair an existing dairy and hay barn to improve the dairy herd health and productivity, feed quality, and operational efficiency.

Forthill Farm, Pittsfield/Richmond - \$90,000

To expand their existing farmstand building, increasing their operational efficiency by creating additional space for retail sales, washing and packaging produce, and storage.

Four Corners Farm, Worthington - \$60,000

To construct a new agricultural building for retail sales, produce storage, as well as increased efficiency of washing and packaging their produce.

Nicewicz Family Farm, Bolton - \$80,140

To build a new equipment storage barn, extending the life of their equipment and decreasing maintenance costs.

Stones Throw Farm, West Boylston - \$60,000

To construct a new barn that will serve as a hay storage as well as a retail farmstand, allowing the farm to increase production and sales.

The Lewis Family Farm, Westport - \$60,000

To build a new hay and equipment storage barn, improving hay quality and extending the life of the haying equipment by protecting it from the elements.

Viveiros Farm, Fairhaven - \$60,000

To repair and renovate existing farm buildings to improve the livestock health and productivity, improve hay quality and storage capacity by repairing roof leaks, increase the life of stored equipment, and improve access to the structures.

2022 Participants

6 of 11 applicants awarded.

Foxcroft Farm, Amherst - \$40,000

To build a new hay and equipment storage building, expanding hay storage capacity and supporting increased production and sales.

Mountain View Farm, Easthampton - \$40,000

To complete a large expansion of the farm's facilities, electrifying and insulating a new building that will increase the efficiency of the operation by providing produce, equipment, and supply storage as well as a maintenance facility.

Orr's Farm, Westport - \$40,000

To build a new barn, allowing them to store and process vegetables and providing storage for supplies, inventory, and farm equipment.

D. A. Smiarowski Farms, Sunderland - \$120,000

To build a new vegetable washing, packing, and storage facility, allowing them to expand asparagus production and sales.

Wolf Tree Farm, Plainfield - \$120,000

To construct a new vegetable washing, packing, and storage building, increasing the efficiency of the operation as well as the quality of products sold.