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Division of Agricultural Technical Assistance

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## **Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Program**

**Application Period: July 1st 2020 – July 23rd 2021**

The program accepts applications on a rolling basis. In order to be considered a priority for the next funding cycle applications should be received by 4:00 P.M. on July 23, 2021.

Applications may be mailed, hand-delivered or sent electronically; those sent by fax will NOT be accepted. Postmarks will not be considered. A copy of the completed application is acceptable for meeting the submission deadline. Original signature page can be submitted at a later date.

**Submit all applications to:**

**Dorothy Du, APR Program**

[dorothy.du@mass.gov](mailto:dorothy.du@mass.gov)

**Mass Department of Agricultural Resources  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02114**



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**SECTION 1: Land Owner Information**

Please list all owners of record:

Owner Name(s) (**exactly** as shown on the most recent deed)

\*Attach a copy of the most recent deed

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signatory (if Corporation or Trust): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Attach documentation proving signatory authority

\*Attach contact information for all owners/members of the Trust or Corporation

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 2: Primary Contact Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship (if not owner listed above): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 3: APR Location**

Proposed APR property physical location (if different from above)

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the property in a Right to Farm Community? \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 4: Registry of Deeds Information**

Be sure to include the most recent property deed for all of the proposed APR parcels and any known boundary or partial boundary surveys. Attach a copy of the deed(s) and survey(s).

Book \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_ Registry Name/County \_\_\_\_\_

Book \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_ Registry Name/County \_\_\_\_\_

Plan Book \_\_\_\_\_ Plan#/Page \_\_\_\_\_ Registry Name/County \_\_\_\_\_

Plan Book \_\_\_\_\_ Plan#/Page \_\_\_\_\_ Registry Name/County \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 5: Assessor's Information**

Be sure to include all of the proposed APR parcels.

Map: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel \_\_\_\_\_ Map: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel \_\_\_\_\_

Map: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel \_\_\_\_\_ Map: \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel \_\_\_\_\_

\*Attach a map showing tax parcel boundaries.

**SECTION 6:  
Easements or Agreements on the Land**  
(e.g. Utilities, Sewer, Neighbor Access/Rights of Way, Existing Restrictions, Leases, Options to Purchase, Rights of First Refusal, Purchase and Sales Agreement)

List any known easements or agreements affecting land being proposed for APR by type (see examples above) and holder (i.e. Name of Power Company or Neighbor's name). \*Attach a copy of any existing lease and describe any proposed lease.

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Is any portion of the property currently enrolled in the Farm Viability Program or similar? If yes, list program(s):

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<b>SECTION 7: Current Property Use and Conditions</b>
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- 1) Describe the current use of the land. Include acres and approximate yields of the various crops, numbers and types of livestock, forest products, specialty crops, greenhouses etc. It is also required to include a summary of the property's short term and long term plans for keeping the land in active Agriculture. Historical land use and any other future plans that you may be considering is also helpful. Attach more pages if necessary.

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2) Complete the table below. In the first column include acreage of each land use/type under the applicant's ownership. Acreage should add up to total acreage of the property owned by the applicant. In the second column please list acreage that you would like considered for APR inclusion. Please note that final acreage considered for APR inclusion may change depending upon soils eligibility, funding availability, etc.

Land Type/Use	Total Property Acreage of each Type Owned by Applicant	Acreage of this Type Proposed for APR
Vegetable		
Small Fruit		
Hay		
Forage		
Orchard		
Managed Pasture*		
Unmanaged Pasture		
Productive Woodland(i.e. sugarbush)		
Woodland		
Tobacco		
Other (Describe)		
Other (Describe)		
TOTAL		

\*Rotational grazing system is being implemented where animals are moved from pasture to pasture so areas can be allowed to rest and recover.

3) List all structures and their current and intended uses. Specify which structures you would like to be included in the APR. Please note that inclusion of structures in the APR area may or may not be possible, but will be determined in consultation with an APR Field Representative during a site visit.

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**\*Please note that residential dwellings may not be considered for inclusion in the APR, and must be excluded from the APR on a separate lot that conforms to local zoning.**

4) Describe the acreage and types of farmland that you rent FROM others, if applicable:

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5) Describe the acreage and types of farmland that you own that is rented TO others, if applicable:

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6) Gross income generated by the farm. If the parcel under application is only a portion of the farm enterprise, please list entire farm income and estimate percentage generated by this parcel:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

7) People (including yourself) employed on the farm:

\_\_\_\_\_ Full Time \_\_\_\_\_ Part Time

8) Describe the primary reason(s) for your decision to apply to the APR Program. This may be a simple estate-planning decision, or there may be multiple factors involved in your decision. Please feel free to “tell your story” to help APR Staff understand your unique situation.

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**SECTION 8**  
**Legal Encumbrances and Compensation Expectations**

1) List any financial liens or encumbrances on the land included in this application (such as mortgages, tax liens, secured lines of credit, operating loans etc.) and the current holder (lender, town, etc.) and amount owed on each:

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2) If an offer is made for an APR on your property in the future, it will be based upon appraised value. However, that amount may be limited by an APR spending cap. If you have a minimum price for the Restriction, below which you will not consider an APR, please list below. Otherwise, please leave blank.

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**Signatures**

By signing this application applicant(s) affirms that he/she/they has the full authority to complete an APR on this property if the terms are acceptable to the Applicant(s) and the Commonwealth, and that all required signatures are included below. Applicant(s) also acknowledges that the property will be field inspected by APR staff, additional public information about the parcel(s) will be gathered, and the municipality where the land is located may be notified of the application. Applicant hereby consents to allow the Department, an agent of the Department, or a Partner Agency to conduct an inspection of the Project, including soil testing limited to agricultural and septic suitability.

<u>Printed Name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Date</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Attachments: Note that Maps can be combined (1 map may show topo, aerial photo, tax parcel etc.). APR Soil Packets available from NRCS should be able to provide most required maps.**

**Required:**

- \*Most recent deed of property ownership
- \*Documentation proving signatory authority (if Trust or Corporation)
- \*Contact information for all owners/members of the Trust or Corporation (if applicable)
- \*Map showing tax parcel boundaries
- \*USGS topographic map showing project boundary and excluded contiguous acreage under the same ownership
- \*Aerial photo map showing project boundary and excluded areas
- \*Any existing full boundary survey (if known)
- \* USDA NRCS soils map showing breakdown of soil types, acreage possessing soil capability Class I through VIII and prime farmland, soils of state or local significance, and unique soils
- \* Copy of existing lease (if any)

**Helpful but not required at time of application:**

- Current lease or other rental agreement on acreage being considered for APR
- USDA-NRCS Conservation Plan
- Forest Management Plan
- Succession Plan for the property



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