



JANUARY 2020

LOOKING FORWARD: FARMLAND FOREVER

Please join MDAR Commissioner John Lebeaux, APR landowners, farmers, APR staff, Agricultural Lands Preservation Committee (ALPC), Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, state officials, land trusts, and individuals engaged in **Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Program efforts to preserve Massachusetts farmland**. These are public events to review the APR program:

APR Program Updates (30 minutes) - MDAR staff will speak about policies, procedures, regulations, guidance, and efforts to improve and modernize the APR program after input from our 2018-2019 listening sessions.

Listening Sessions (90 minutes) - MDAR would like to hear your suggestions about APR program management, transfer and sale of APRs, long-term economic viability of APR farmlands including agritourism and nonagricultural uses, approvals, future farmland and legacy planning, and the application process for new APR farmland. MDAR is also interested in hearing from you about other topics like planning for climate resiliency: soil management, no-till agriculture, soil health, carbon sequestration; and weather-related issues like storms, flooding and increased frost/thaw frequency.

Online Comments – MDAR welcomes your input at events and/or online at www.mass.gov/apr-program-review “Online Form”.

APR Program Events 2020

6-8pm

January 7

Red Barn, Hampshire College
893 West Street, Amherst

January 14

Community Harvest Farm
37 Wheeler Road, North Grafton

January 21

Berkshire Athenaeum, Public Library
1 Wendell Ave, Pittsfield

January 28

Bristol County Agricultural High School
Library Rm 212, Gilbert Hall
135 Center Street, Dighton

January 30

Essex North Shore Agricultural/Tech HS
Smith Hall Cafetorium
565 Maple Street, Danvers

Since 1980, the APR Program
has permanently protected
932 farms and 73,368 acres
in Massachusetts.

The APR program was the first
in the nation and continues
to protect and preserve working
farms for generations to come.

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Agricultural Preservation
Restriction (APR) Program

