

# Farm Transfer Planning in Massachusetts

*Have you begun planning for the transfer of your farm to the next owner?*

*Are you looking for help to guide you through the steps of the farm succession planning process?*

*Do you need a place to list your farm property for sale or lease to reach beginning farmers?*

It's never too early to plan for your farm's future. MDAR offers one-on-one succession planning assistance and group trainings throughout programs for Massachusetts farm families. **Contact Laura Barley at 857-507-5548 or [Laura.Barley@mass.gov](mailto:Laura.Barley@mass.gov)** for more information. Here are other programs and resources that can help.

## Online Transfer Planning Resources

### New England Farmland Finder

<https://newenglandfarmlandfinder.org>

A regional farm property clearinghouse that makes it easy for farm properties to be posted, and for farm seekers to search through them. Free, simple, region-wide, automated, and constantly current.

### Farmland Access Legal Toolkit

<https://farmlandaccess.org/farm-transfer>

The Farmland Access Legal Toolkit explains legal arrangements that provide farmers more affordable and equitable farmland access and help landowners balance earning income for retirement with making their land affordable to the next generation of farmers.

### American Farmland Trust: Farmland Information Center

<http://farmlandinfo.org/transfer-your-farm-or-ranch>

Guides, webinars, and other information that outline the initial steps toward developing a farm transfer plan.

## Transfer Planning Services

### MDAR's Farm Pass Program

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/agricultural-business-training-program-abtp>

MDAR offers farm transfer planning assistance to landowners and identified successors aiming to transition ownership within 10 years. One-on-one assistance with dedicated farm transfer planners is offered for up to one year at no cost to participants. **Contact: Laura Barley, 857-507-5548, [Laura.Barley@mass.gov](mailto:Laura.Barley@mass.gov)**

### Land For Good

<https://landforgood.org/who/farm-families>

Land For Good provides support and expert guidance to help farmers and landowners in New England navigate the complex challenges of land access, tenure, and transfer. One-on-one advising and referral services provided to farmers at no cost, and ongoing client services with a sliding scale fee. **Contact: Jae Silverman, 603-357-1600, [jae@landforgood.org](mailto:jae@landforgood.org)**

### Farm Credit East

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/en/SERVICES/Estate-Planning>

Farm Credit East offers expert consultants that work with farm families on transfer planning.

**Eastern MA:** Jon Jaffe, 860-933-7303, [jon.jaffe@farmcrediteast.com](mailto:jon.jaffe@farmcrediteast.com)

**Western MA:** Erin Pirro, 860-962-3935, [erin.pirro@farmcrediteast.com](mailto:erin.pirro@farmcrediteast.com)

### Massachusetts Agricultural Mediation Program

[https://www.umb.edu/mopc/what\\_we\\_do/projects/agricultural\\_mediation\\_program](https://www.umb.edu/mopc/what_we_do/projects/agricultural_mediation_program)

Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration provides a range of services for agricultural issues, including family farm transition, through its USDA-sponsored MA Agricultural Mediation Program. **Contact: Courtney Breese, 617-287-4046, [Courtney.Breese@umb.edu](mailto:Courtney.Breese@umb.edu)**

### Conservation Law Foundation Legal Food Hub

<https://www.legalfoodhub.org/>

A free service that connects eligible Massachusetts farmers with volunteer attorneys who can provide pro bono services related to farm succession planning. **Contact: Mary Egan, 844-529-4769, [legalfoodhub@clf.org](mailto:legalfoodhub@clf.org)**



138 Memorial Ave, Suite 42  
West Springfield, MA 01089  
[www.mass.gov/agr](http://www.mass.gov/agr)