

# Massachusetts Farmland Partnership Program Program Overview and Introduction to Funded Projects



This document contains an overview of the Farmland Partnership Program and an introduction to the 29 projects funded for 2026-2027. This is one of several resources available from the [Farmland Partnership website](#).

Each of the 29 projects has a Project Factsheet which is available in this document. These factsheets will be updated as additional information becomes available. Additional resources related to each project will be added to the [Farmland Partnership website](#) as they become available.

This document was last updated on 3/26/2026.

**For questions and comments please contact:**

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Any photographs and graphics included in this document are by MDAR staff

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## About the Farmland Partnership Program (FPP)

### Goal and Approach

The Massachusetts Farmland Partnership Program is a grant program to help implement the Farmland Action Plan at the local, regional or statewide level.

The goal of the Program is to build networks of partners who work together collaboratively and in coordination to protect farmland, enhance farm viability, and ensure access to farmland.

This is achieved by providing funding to eligible partners to work with farmers, farmland owners, agricultural service providers, municipalities and other organizations/entities to protect farmland, enhance farm viability, and ensure access to farmland.

The following are key characteristics of this program:

- Rooted in partnership and collaboration
- Fostering systems change
- Grounded in implementing tasks of the Farmland Action Plan
- Building capacity of partner organizations and staff
- Filling gaps between other funding programs and initiatives

Most of what is outlined in the Farmland Action Plan is there because there is something that needs to be done that hasn't been easy to address. This program is not about doing things the way they've always been done. Instead, it's about reaching to do more or changing how we do things.

### 2026-2027 Grants awarded and partners funded

In December 2025, MDAR announced the award of the FY2026 Farmland Partnership Projects which will be implemented over two years from 2026 – 2027. All projects must be completed by October 31, 2027.

A total of \$1.9 million in grants were awarded for individual projects and common activities.

- Seven groups were awarded grants which includes 19 partner organizations and over 80 people.
- 29 projects will be implementing 22 tasks

The following partners were funded, with the lead partner in listed first:

- American Farmland Trust (AFT) with Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition (MLTC)
- The Carrot Project (TCP) with Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership (SEMAP) and Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA)
- Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) with Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC)
- Land For Good (LFG)
- New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry) with Nuestras Raíces, Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT) and Growing Places

#### What is the Farmland Action Plan?

The Massachusetts Farmland Action Plan 2023-2050 (MFAP) 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. It focuses on three overlapping goals to address challenges – protection, access and viability. This FPP Program Overview assumes a basic understanding of the MFAP and its implementation so far.




Learn more about the MFAP with short videos and resources available at [www.mass.gov/farmland-action-plan](http://www.mass.gov/farmland-action-plan)

- Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) with Wildlands Trust and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
- World Farmers with Massachusetts Food System Collaborative (MAFSC) and Nipmuc Indian Development Corporation (NIDC)

## Introduction to the 2026-2026 projects

### Overview of projects

There are three types of projects funded.

	<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>1 – Protect and steward land</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 projects</li> <li>• Implementing 7 different tasks</li> <li>• \$315,950 in grant awards</li> </ul> <p>• Includes municipal planning, Chapter 61A, training for surveyors and appraisers</p>		<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>2 – Access to farmland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 projects</li> <li>• Implementing 7 different tasks</li> <li>• \$395,724 in grant awards</li> </ul> <p>• Includes land licensing, shared land tenure, transfer planning tools, DEI capacity building</p>		<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>3 – Viability of farms and farmland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 projects</li> <li>• Implementing 8 different tasks</li> <li>• \$546,163 in grant awards</li> </ul> <p>• Includes peer mentorship, training people who work with farmers, climate change adaptation, fostering culturally appropriate outreach</p>
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### About the project factsheets

Each of the 29 projects has a Project Factsheet which is available below. These factsheets will be updated as additional information becomes available.

Project factsheets include the following information and more:

- Project name
- Short description of the project
- Information about which Action and Task from the MFAP is being implemented
- Which partners are working on the project
- Contact information if you have questions
- Map and description of the area the project serves

The type of project can be identified using the box in the top right corner.

<p>Implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland</p>		<p>Implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland</p>	
<p>Implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland</p>			

## View more information on the project webpages

More information about each of the projects will be published online, including newsletter signups and resources created through the projects. Projects are divided into three webpages, according to which goal the project supports

- [Farmland protection related projects webpage](#)
- [Farmland access related projects webpage](#)
- [Farm viability related projects webpage](#)

## Factsheets for farmland protection related projects

Implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



The following is a list of the 8 projects that are implementing Actions and Tasks from Goal I of the MFAP – “Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland”. The task being implemented is listed by its MFAP ID in parenthesis.

### Strategy A – Permanently protect farmland through purchases of agricultural restrictions

- Municipal Farmland Protection Plans (Task 1018)
- Municipal preparedness for land acquisition (Task 1432)
- Build awareness of importance of farm viability in land protection (Task 1432)
- Increase pool of appraisers, surveyors and attorneys (Task 1076)
- Municipal workshops on Chapter 61A and Right of First Refusal (ROFR) (Task 1062)
- Municipal training on Chapter 61A (Task 1063)

### Strategy B – Further develop and implement additional tools to avoid farmland loss and retain farmland

- Using Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds for Chapter 61A lands (Task 1114)
- Education on zoning and planning tools that reduce farmland loss (Task 1125)

### Strategy C – Prioritize protection of whole farms

- None this round

### Strategy D – Formalize and integrate decision-making processes regarding farmland protection

- None this round

## Municipal Farmland Protection Plans

### What this project will do

- Develop a process and model for developing municipal Farmland Protection Plans with communities of varying sizes and characteristics.
- Identify incentives and barriers that could be addressed that would encourage creation of Farmland Protection Plans.
- Work with 6 municipalities to develop Municipal Farmland Protection Plans.

Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/24/2026

Lead partner – FRCOG

Project – FRCOG 1.1

MFAP Task – 1018

Factsheet page number – 1

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>1</sup>

- Action I.A.3 – Leverage the maximum amount of federal funding available.
- Task 1018 – Incentivize municipalities and regional planning agencies (RPAs) to develop local farmland protection plans reflecting local farming opportunities and priorities.

### Implementing partners and contact

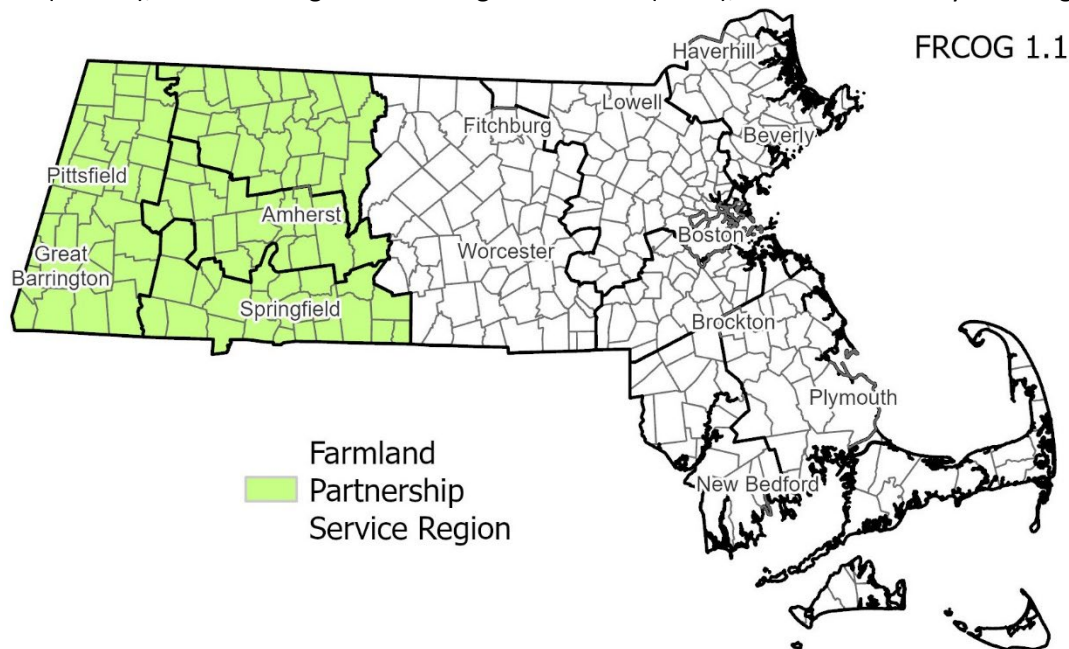
- Lead – Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG)
- Other – Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC)
- Contact email – Tamsin Flanders, [tflanders@frcog.org](mailto:tflanders@frcog.org)

### Learn more

- [2/7/2026 Greenfield Reporter article about the project](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves Western Massachusetts, as shown in the map below. The towns are primarily in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire and Hamden counties. It follows the service areas for the three partners: Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC), and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC).



<sup>1</sup> This project is also implementing the [Resilient Lands Initiative](#)

## Education on zoning and planning tools that reduce farmland loss

Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



### What this project will do

- Provide education on zoning bylaws, best practices, municipal planning documents, and policies/procures related to conservation subdivisions and compact development that supports farmland protection.

Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/17/2026

Lead partner– SRPEDD

Project – SRPEDD 1.4

MFAP Task – 1125

Factsheet page number – 1

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action I.B.7 – Advance zoning reform and smart growth policies that encourage density and development that do not result in the loss of farmland.
- Task 1125 – Educate municipalities about the use of conservation subdivision/natural resources protection zoning and accessory apartment bylaws as tools to promote compact development and provide technical support to communities seeking to adopt and use these zoning tools.

### Implementing partners and contact

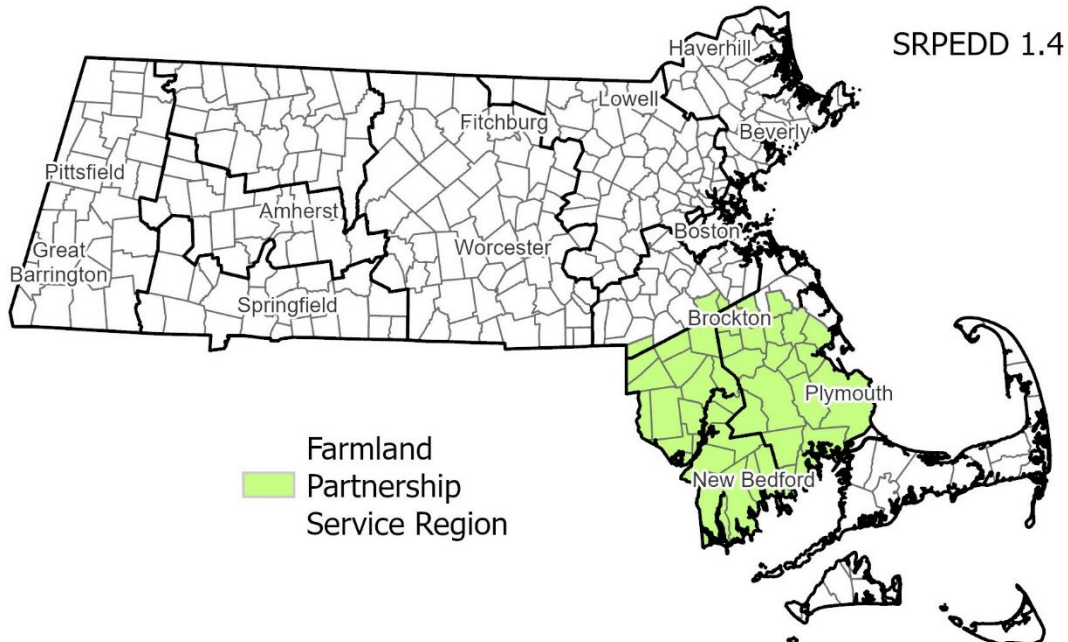
- Lead – Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)
- Other – Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
- Contact email – Karen Pettinelli, [kpettinelli@srpedd.org](mailto:kpettinelli@srpedd.org)

### Learn more

- Sign up for [Southeastern MA Farmland Protection Projects Newsletter](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves Southeast Massachusetts, as shown in the map below. The towns are primarily in Bristol and Plymouth counties. It follows the service areas for two of the partners: Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC).



## Increase pool of appraisers, surveyors and attorneys for farmland protection

### What this project will do

- Assess needs and barriers, build relationships, and provide training and resources to increase the pool of appraisers, surveyors and attorneys needed for farmland protection transactions.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action I.A.7 – Increase the number of applications to APR, ALE, and non-ALE protection programs.
- Task 1076 – Increase the pool of appraisers, surveyors, and other contractors.

### Implementing partners and contact

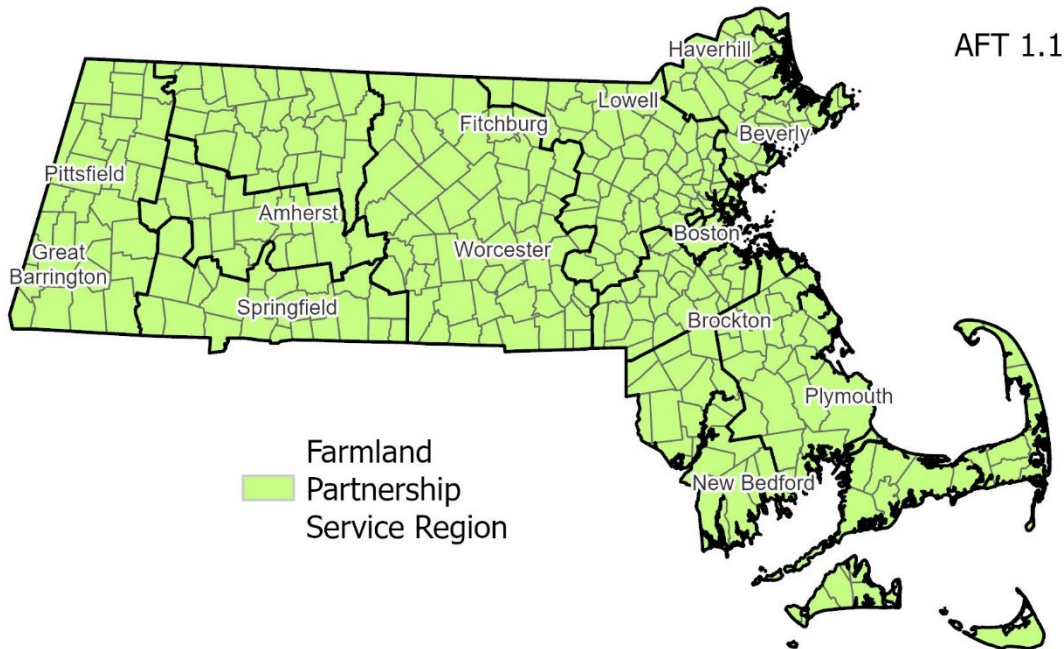
- Lead – Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition (MLTC)
- Other – None
- Contact email – Robb Johnson, [robb@massland.org](mailto:robb@massland.org)

### Learn more

- View the [MLTC Service Provider Directory](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/17/2026  
Lead partner – Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition (MLTC)  
Project – AFT 1.1  
MFAP Task – 1076  
Page number – 1

## Build awareness of importance of farm viability in land protection

### What this project will do

- Education and technical assistance for land trusts connecting the importance of farm viability to farmland protection processes.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>23</sup>

- Action I.A.6 – Build capacity of state agencies, land trusts, municipalities, and other entities to protect agricultural land.
- Task 1432 – Build the capacity of restriction-holding entities to effectively identify, review, and acquire restrictions that allow agriculture.

### Implementing partners and contact

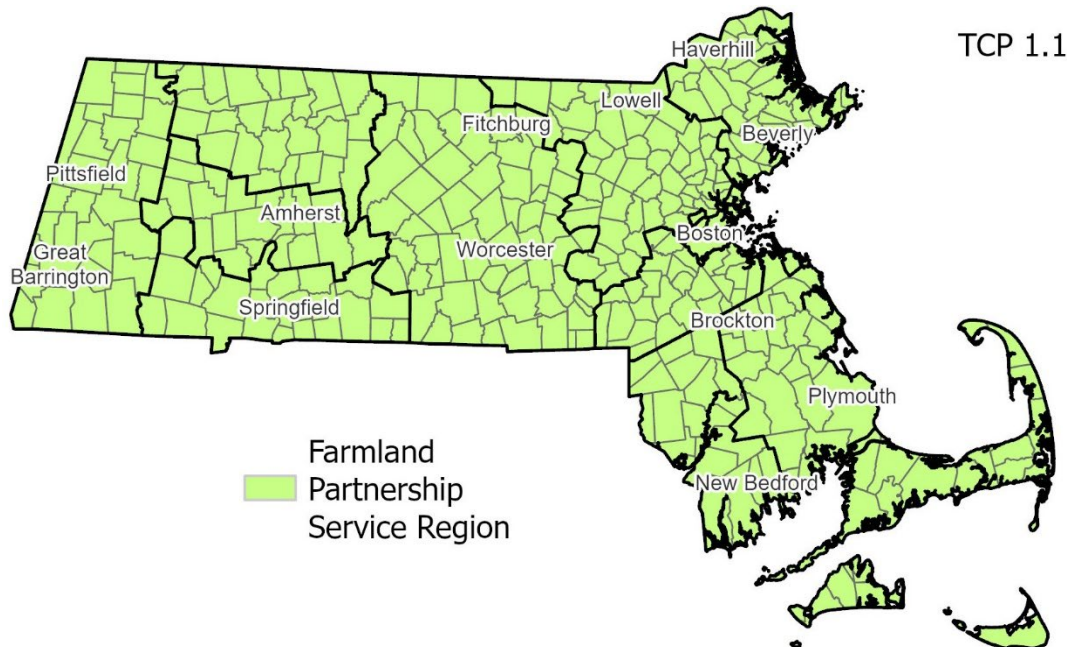
- Lead – The Carrot Project
- Other – None
- Contact email – Benneth Phelps, [bp Phelps@thecarrotproject.org](mailto:bp Phelps@thecarrotproject.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/24/2026  
Lead partner – The Carrot Project  
Project – TCP 1.1  
MFAP Task – 1432  
Page number – 1

<sup>2</sup> Two Farmland Partnership projects implementing one task. Also see [Municipal preparedness for land acquisition](#)

<sup>3</sup> This project is also implementing the [Resilient Lands Initiative](#)

## Municipal preparedness for land acquisition

### What this project will do

- Engage municipalities and build capacity of municipalities respond to Right of First Refusal (ROFR).
- Identify needs and resources for restriction-holding entities in relation to 61A preservation.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>45</sup>

- Action I.A.6 – Build capacity of state agencies, land trusts, municipalities, and other entities to protect agricultural land.
- Task 1432 – Build the capacity of restriction-holding entities to effectively identify, review, and acquire restrictions that allow agriculture.

### Implementing partners and contact

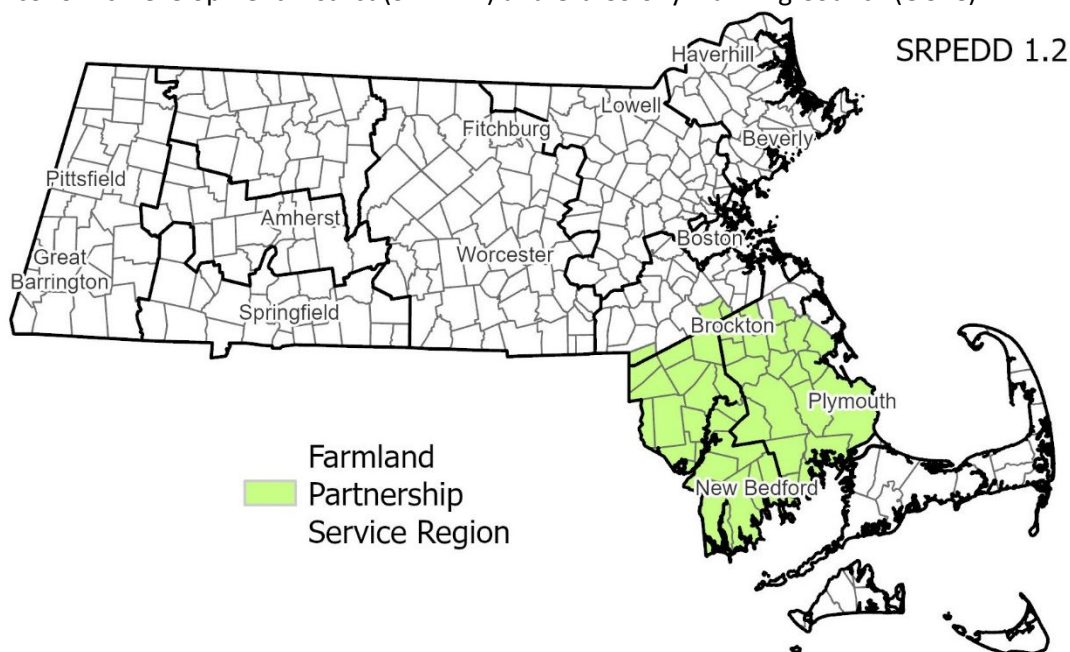
- Lead – Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)
- Other – Wildlands Trust and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
- Contact email – Karen Pettinelli, [kpettinelli@srpedd.org](mailto:kpettinelli@srpedd.org)

### Learn more

- Sign up for [Southeastern MA Farmland Protection Projects Newsletter](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves Southeast Massachusetts, as shown in the map below. The towns are primarily in Bristol and Plymouth counties. It follows the service areas for two of the partners: Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC).



Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/17/2026  
Lead partner – SRPEDD  
Project – SRPEDD 1.2  
MFAP Task – 1432  
Page number – 1

<sup>4</sup> Two Farmland Partnership projects implementing one task. Also see [Build awareness of importance of farm viability in land protection](#)

<sup>5</sup> This project is also implementing the [Resilient Lands Initiative](#)

## Municipal workshops on Chapter 61A and Right of First Refusal (ROFR)

Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



### What this project will do

- Develop and implement a municipal workshop series on topics relevant to preservation of Chapter 61A lands and Right of First Refusal

Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/17/2026

Lead partner – SRPEDD

Project – SRPEDD 1.1

MFAP Task – 1062

Page number – 1

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action I.A.11 – Increase awareness and understanding of permanent protection options including APR, ALE, and non-ALE protection programs.
- Task 1062 – Create guidance documents, websites, webinars, and other materials targeted at specific audiences on programs such as Chapter 61A, APR, and others.

### Implementing partners and contact

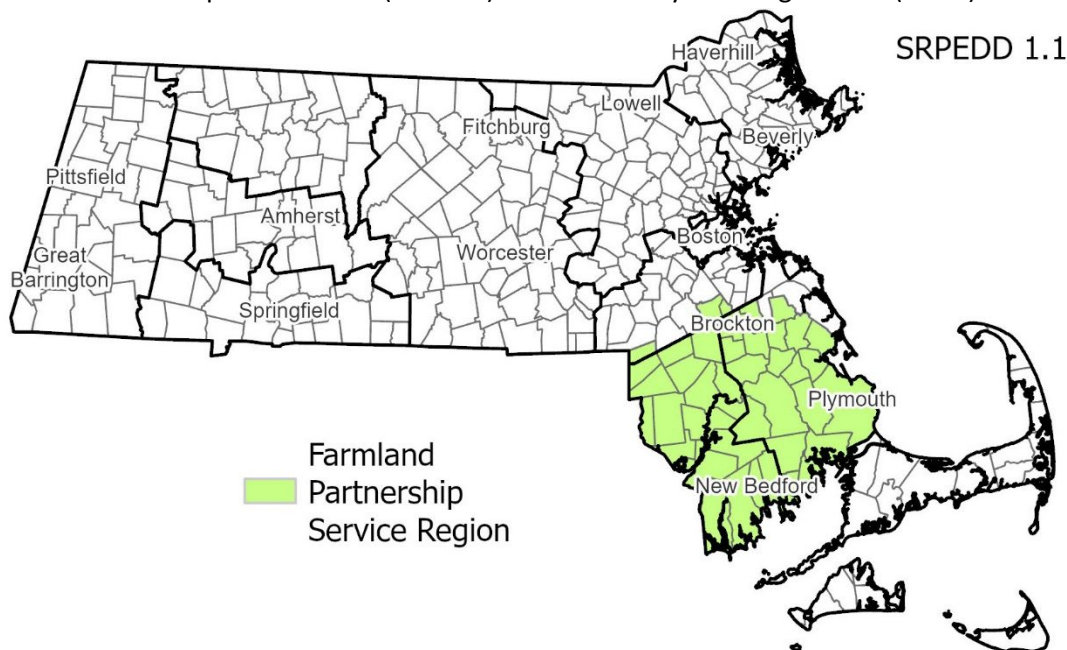
- Lead – Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)
- Other – Wildlands Trust and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
- Contact email – Karen Pettinelli, [kpettinelli@srpedd.org](mailto:kpettinelli@srpedd.org)

### Learn more

- Sign up for [Southeastern MA Farmland Protection Projects Newsletter](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves Southeast Massachusetts, as shown in the map below. The towns are primarily in Bristol and Plymouth counties. It follows the service areas for two of the partners: Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC).



## Municipal training on Chapter 61A

### What this project will do

- Municipal training, topical consulting sessions, and one-on-one technical assistance for municipal representatives in relation to Rights of First Refusal (ROFRs) and protection of Chapter 61A properties.

Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/17/2026

Lead partner – SRPEDD

Project – SRPEDD 1.3

MFAP Task – 1063

Page number – 1

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action I.A.11 – Increase awareness and understanding of permanent protection options including APR, ALE, and non-ALE protection programs.
- Task 1063 – Develop and implement a program to train municipalities on the economic, food security, and other benefits of farmland, to help them understand the details of Chapter 61A Right of First Refusal (ROFR), and to encourage them to exercise their rights or assign them to nonprofits.????

### Implementing partners and contact

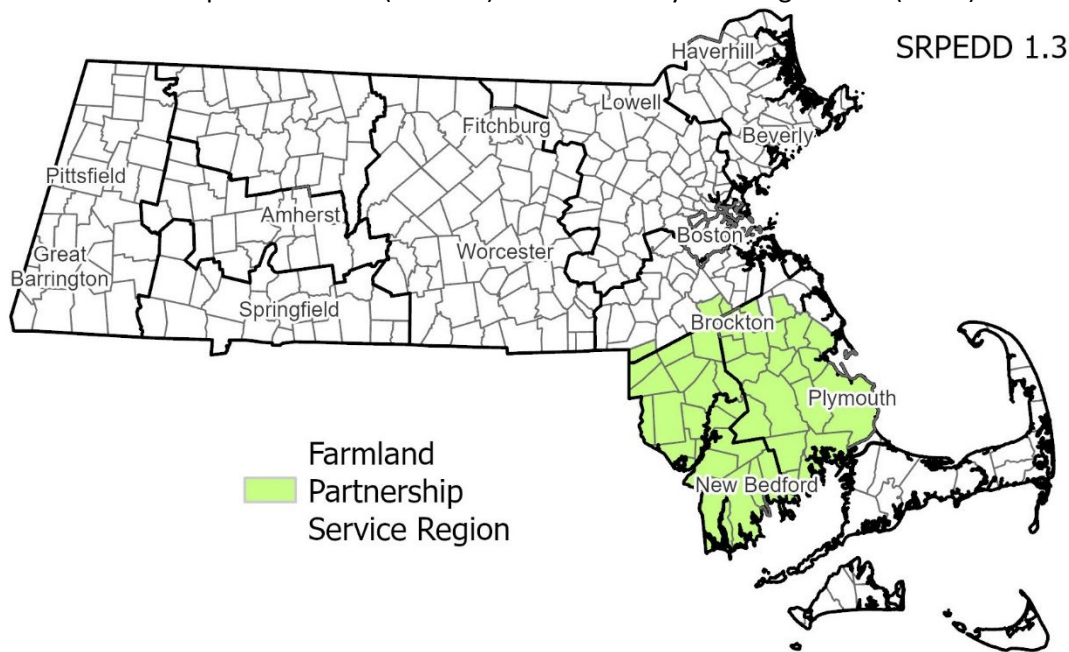
- Lead – Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)
- Other – Wildlands Trust and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
- Contact email – Karen Pettinelli, [kpettinelli@srpedd.org](mailto:kpettinelli@srpedd.org)

### Learn more

- Sign up for [Southeastern MA Farmland Protection Projects Newsletter](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves Southeast Massachusetts, as shown in the map below. The towns are primarily in Bristol and Plymouth counties. It follows the service areas for two of the partners: Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC).



## Using Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds for Chapter 61A land

Project implementing Goal I of the MFAP: Accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland



### What this project will do

- Create informational materials on the use of CPA funds for acquisition of Chapter 61A lands.
- Provide technical assistance to municipalities about how CPA funds can be used to support farmland protection as it relates to ROFRs.

Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/17/2026

Lead partner – SRPEDD

Project – SRPEDD 1.5

MFAP Task – 1114

Page number – 1

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action I.B.3 – Identify opportunities to increase CPA funding and its application to protect farmland and affordable on- and off-farm housing.
- Task 1114 – Provide technical assistance to town community preservation committees, agricultural commissions, and land trusts about how CPA funds can be used to support farmland protection????

### Implementing partners and contact

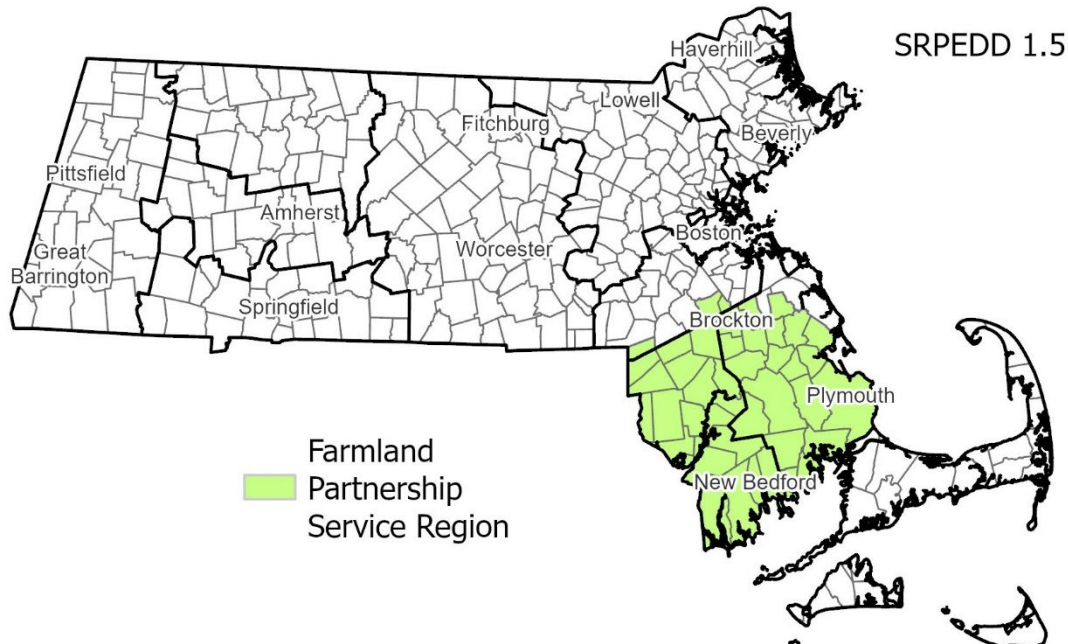
- Lead – Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)
- Other – Wildlands Trust and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC)
- Contact email – Karen Pettinelli, [kpettinelli@srpedd.org](mailto:kpettinelli@srpedd.org)

### Learn more

- Sign up for [Southeastern MA Farmland Protection Projects Newsletter](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves Southeast Massachusetts, as shown in the map below. The towns are primarily in Bristol and Plymouth counties. It follows the service areas for two of the partners: Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) and Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC).



## Factsheets for farmland access related projects

Implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



The following is a list of the 9 projects that are implementing Actions and Tasks from Goal II of the MFAP – “Increase access to farmland”. The task being implemented is listed by its MFAP ID in parenthesis.

### Strategy A – Make more land available for agriculture

- Prioritize Historically Underserved Farmers for municipal land licensing (Task 1156)
- Education about licensing municipal lands (Task 1162)
- Education for municipalities with new licensing programs (Task 1162)
- Education for municipalities about indigenous and local foodways (Task 1395)
- Case study research on shared land tenure models (Task 1192)
- Pilot shared land tenure site (Task 1192)

### Strategy B – Support farm transfer and succession in ways that enhance access to farmland

- Educate farmers on transfer planning (Task 1203)
- Promote farmland linking (Task 1208)

### Strategy C – Prioritize increased access for BIPOC and historically underserved farmers in all farmland access programs and policies

- Build DEI capacity across food system partners (Task 1231)

### Strategy D – Support and expand service-provider networks to meet the needs of all farmers and potential farmers

- None this round

## Prioritize historically underserved farmers (HUF) for municipal land licensing

### What this project will do

- Research and report on existing models and best practices for municipal farmland licensing where historically underserved farmers are prioritized.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action II.A.1 – Assess all existing, publicly held land for its suitability for agriculture and make more of it available for agriculture.
- Task 1156 – Create case studies of expanding access to historically underserved populations through MDAR's land licensing program. Evaluate and refine licensing processes with a view to sharing lessons learned with other entities, such as municipalities.

### Implementing partners and contact

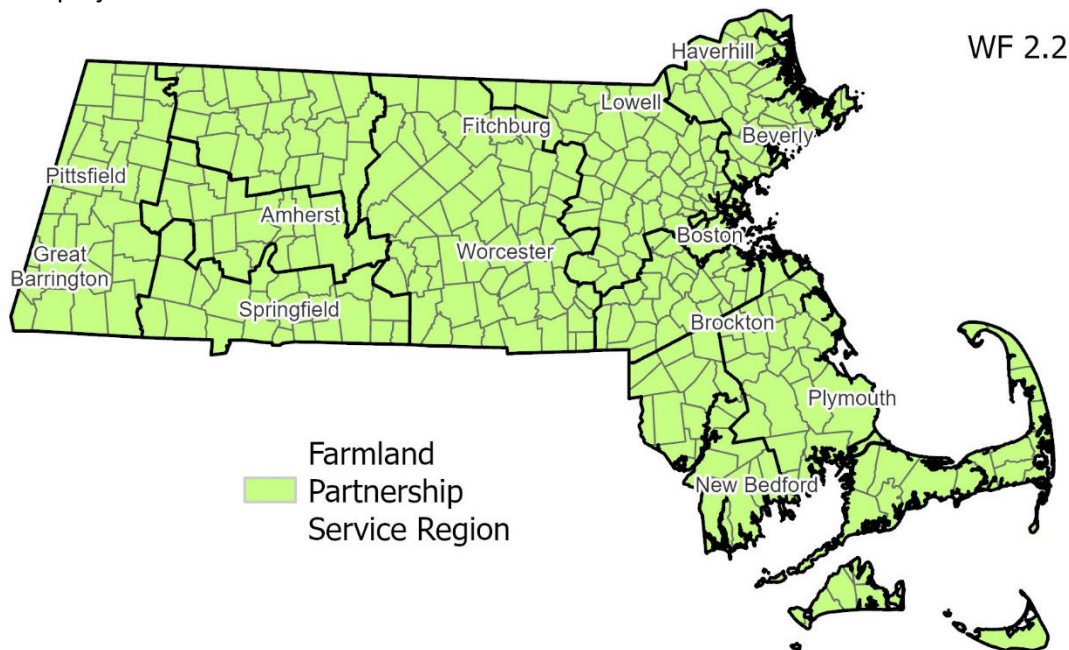
- Lead – World Farmers
- Other – Massachusetts Food System Collaborative (MAFSC), Nipmuc Indian Development Corporation (NIDC)
- Contact email – Jessy Gill, [farmland@worldfarmers.org](mailto:farmland@worldfarmers.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/19/2026

Lead partner – World Farmers

Project – WF 2.2

MFAP Task – 1156

Page number – 1

## Education about licensing municipal lands

### What this project will do

- Research and report on existing models and best practices for municipal farmland licensing from municipal and farmer perspective.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>6</sup>

- Action II.A.1 – Assess all existing, publicly held land for its suitability for agriculture and make more of it available for agriculture.
- Task 1162 – Support municipalities in developing their own farmland licensing agreements and plans.

Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/19/2026  
Lead partner – MA Food System Collaborative  
Project – WF 2.1  
MFAP Task – 1162  
Page number – 1

### Implementing partners and contact

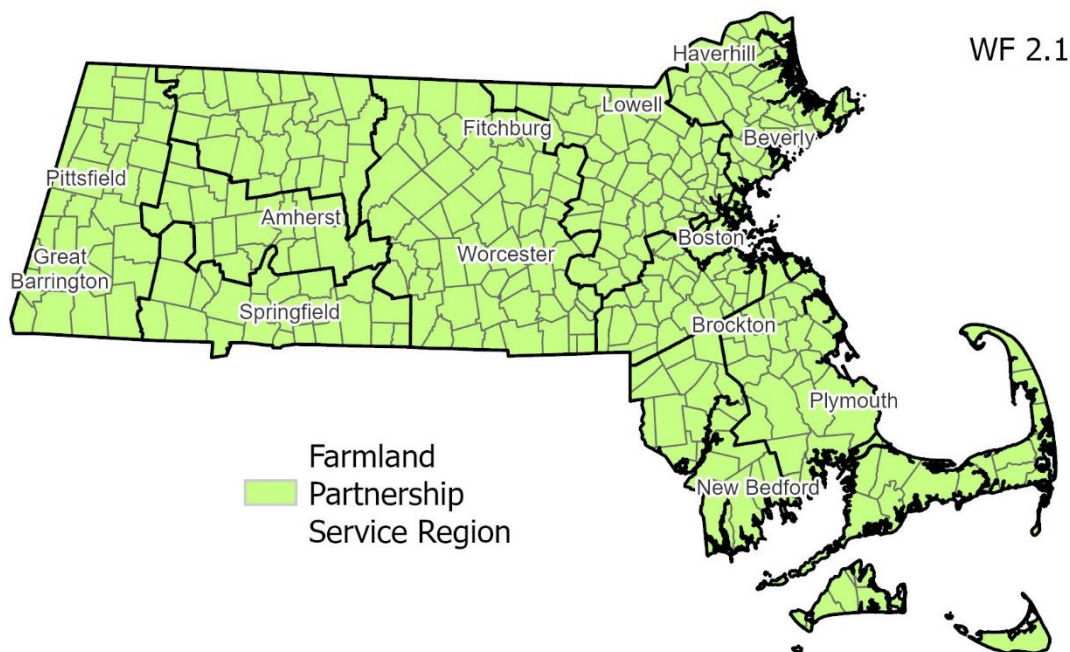
- Lead – Massachusetts Food System Collaborative
- Other – World Farmers, Nipmuc Indian Development Corporation (NIDC)
- Contact email – Kristina Pechulis, [kristina@mafoodsystem.org](mailto:kristina@mafoodsystem.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



<sup>6</sup> Two Farmland Partnership projects implementing one task. Also see [Education for municipalities with new licensing programs](#)

## Education for municipalities with new licensing programs

### What this project will do

- Provide education and technical assistance for municipalities developing and implementing a farmland licensing program.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>7</sup>

- Action II.A.1 – Assess all existing, publicly held land for its suitability for agriculture and make more of it available for agriculture.
- Task 1162 – Support municipalities in developing their own farmland licensing agreements and plans.

### Implementing partners and contact

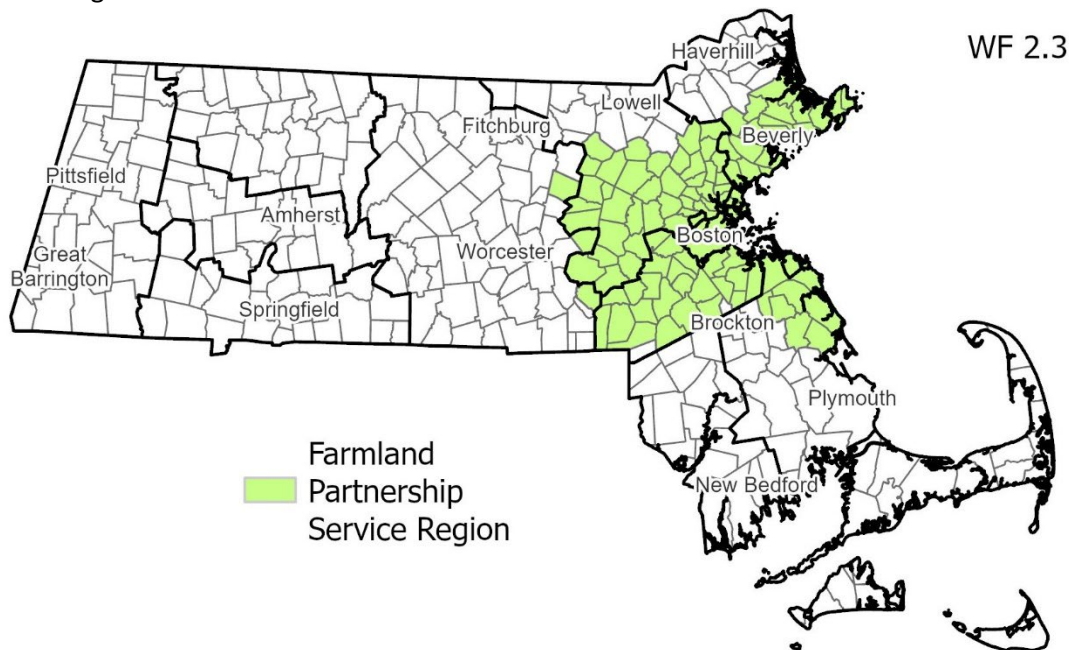
- Lead – World Farmers
- Other – Massachusetts Food System Collaborative
- Contact email – Jessy Gill, [farmland@worldfarmers.org](mailto:farmland@worldfarmers.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves the Greater Boston and neighboring areas, as shown in the map on the right. The towns are primarily in Suffolk, Norfolk, Middlesex and Essex counties. It follows the service area for the Metropolitan Area Planning Council.



Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/19/2026

Lead partner – World Farmers

Project – WF 2.3

MFAP Task – 1162

Page number – 1

<sup>7</sup> Two Farmland Partnership projects implementing one task. Also see [Education about licensing municipal lands](#)

## Education for municipalities about indigenous and local foodways

### What this project will do

- Design and host a municipally-focused workshop series on indigenous foodways to educate municipal decision-makers about the benefits of hyper local food production.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action II.A.1 – Assess all existing, publicly held land for its suitability for agriculture and make more of it available for agriculture.
- Task 1395 – Educate city and town decision-makers about the benefits of hyper local food production and its connection with climate change and food access. Include information about tools to encourage it, including community gardens and land licensing.

### Implementing partners and contact

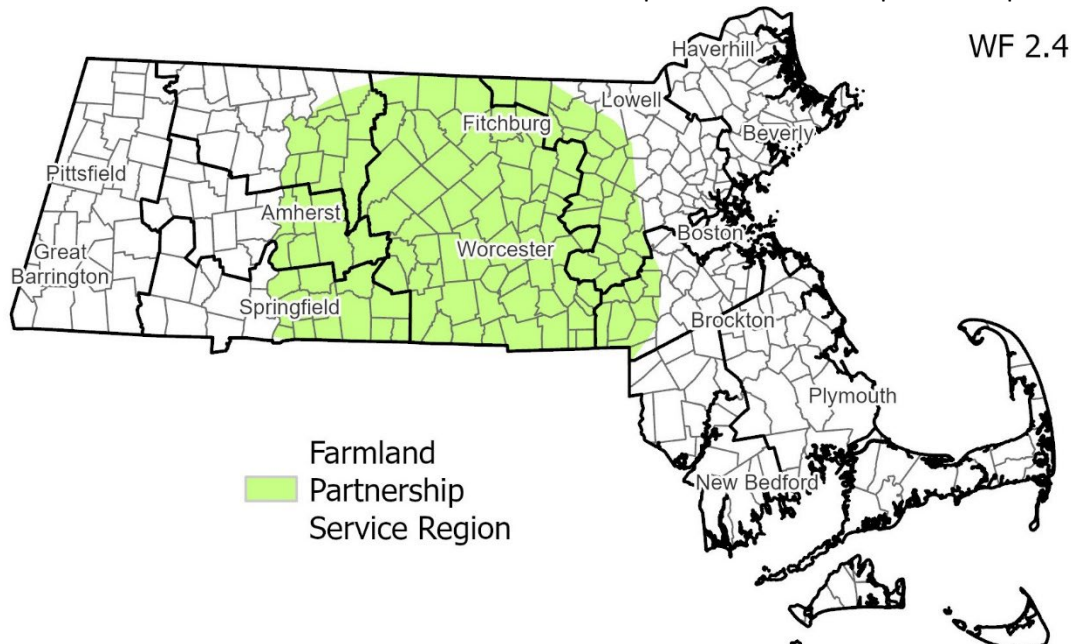
- Lead – Nipmuc Indian Development Corporation (NIDC)
- Others – None
- Contact email – Erica Campbell [elcampbell@nippi.org](mailto:elcampbell@nippi.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves traditional Nipmuc homelands within Massachusetts, as shown in the map on the right. The area is east of the Connecticut River, including parts of Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, Worcester, Middlesex and Norfolk counties. It follows the service area for the Nipmuc Indian Development Corporation.



Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/19/2026  
Lead partner – Nipmuc Indian Development Corporation (NIDC)  
Project – WF 2.4  
MFAP Task – 1395  
Page number – 1

## Case Study Research on Shared Land Tenure Models

### What this project will do

- Research 10–15 diverse shared land tenure models.
- Write a synthesized report to summarize lessons and inform future models and advocacy.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>8</sup>

- Action II.A.4 – Increase the amount of privately leased farmland, coupled with agreements designed to meet the needs of farmers.
- Task 1192 – Explore novel, alternative methods of land tenure to meet the needs of beginning, BIPOC, and other historically underserved communities with limited equity or credit.

Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/25/2026

Lead partner – New Entry

Project – NE 2.1

MFAP Task – 1192

Page number – 1

### Implementing partners and contact

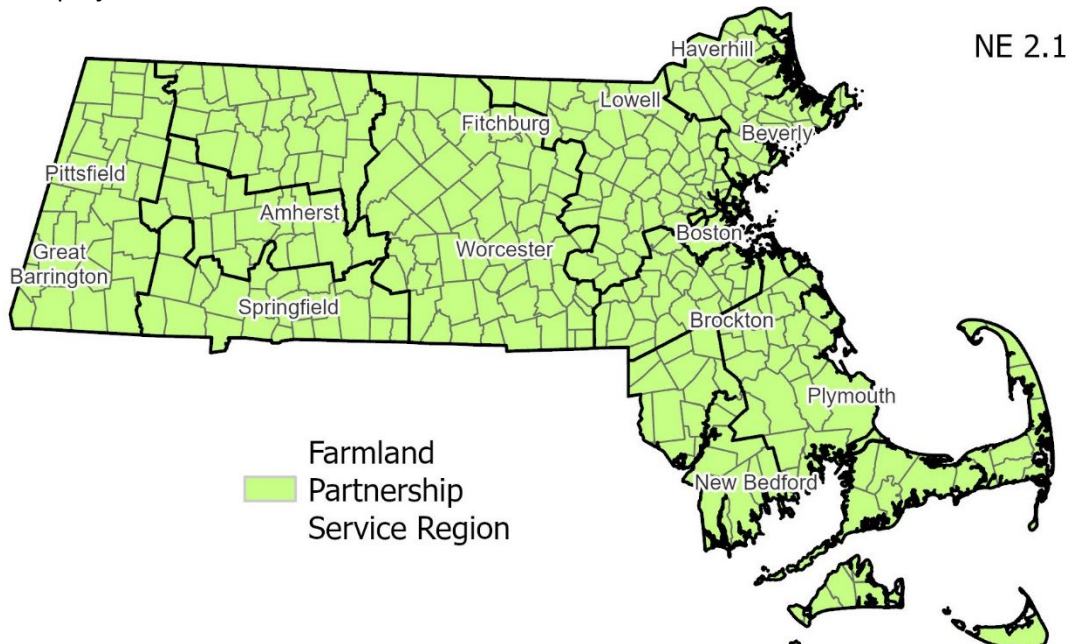
- Lead – New Entry Sustainable Farming Project
- Other – Nuestras Raíces, Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Growing Places
- Contact email – Colleen Hanley, [colleen.hanley@tufts.edu](mailto:colleen.hanley@tufts.edu)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



<sup>8</sup> Two FPP projects implementing one task. Also see [Pilot implementation of Shared Land Tenure Site](#)

## Pilot implementation of Shared Land Tenure Site

### What this project will do

- Pilot shared tenure site with historically underserved farmers.
- Develop operational models, land use agreements and a training curriculum on regenerative practices for climate adaptation.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>9</sup>

- Action II.A.4 – Increase the amount of privately leased farmland, coupled with agreements designed to meet the needs of farmers.
- Task 1192 – Explore novel, alternative methods of land tenure to meet the needs of beginning, BIPOC, and other historically underserved communities with limited equity or credit.

### Implementing partners and contact

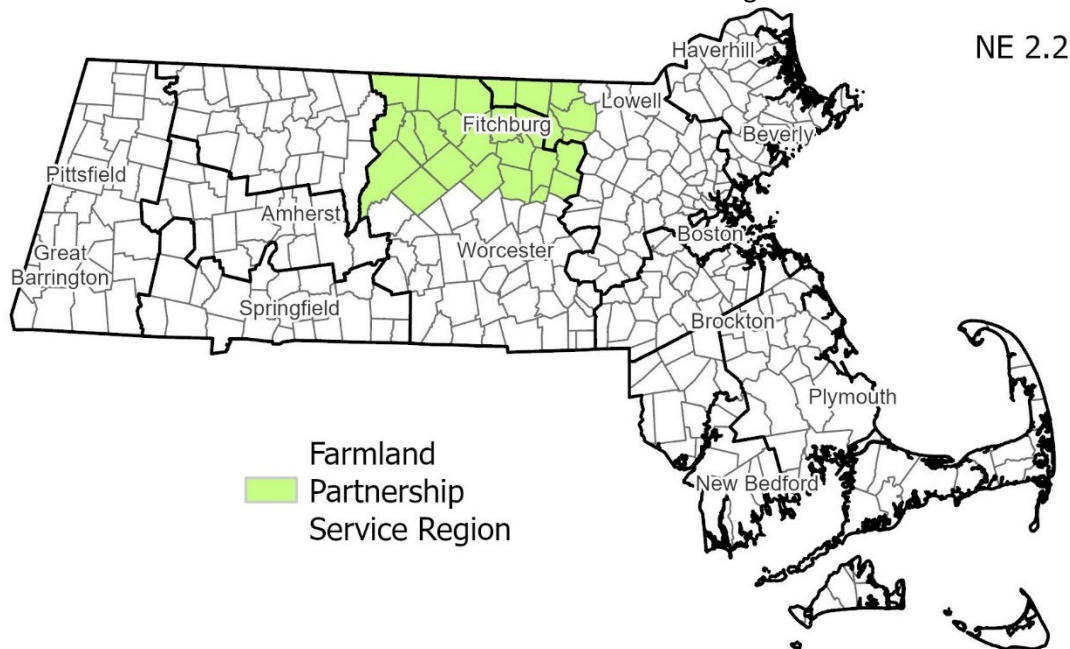
- Lead – Growing Places
- Other – New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry), Nuestras Raíces
- Contact email – Ayn Yeagle, [ayn@growingplaces.org](mailto:ayn@growingplaces.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves north central Massachusetts, as shown in the map on the right. The towns are in Worcester and Middlesex counties. It follows the service area for Growing Places.



Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/26/2026

Lead partner – Growing Places

Project – NE 2.2

MFAP Task – 1192

Page number – 1

<sup>9</sup> Two FPP projects implementing one task. Also see [Case Study Research on Shared Land Tenure Models](#)

## Educate farmers on transfer planning

### What this project will do

- Share information with farmers on transfer planning models, case studies and best practices
- Technical assistance for farmers and organizations that support farmers on transfer planning.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action II.B.1 – Support and expand farmland transfer and farmland succession education and one-to-one technical assistance (TA).
- Task 1203 – Share information with farmers on transfer planning models, case studies, and best practices

### Implementing partners and contact

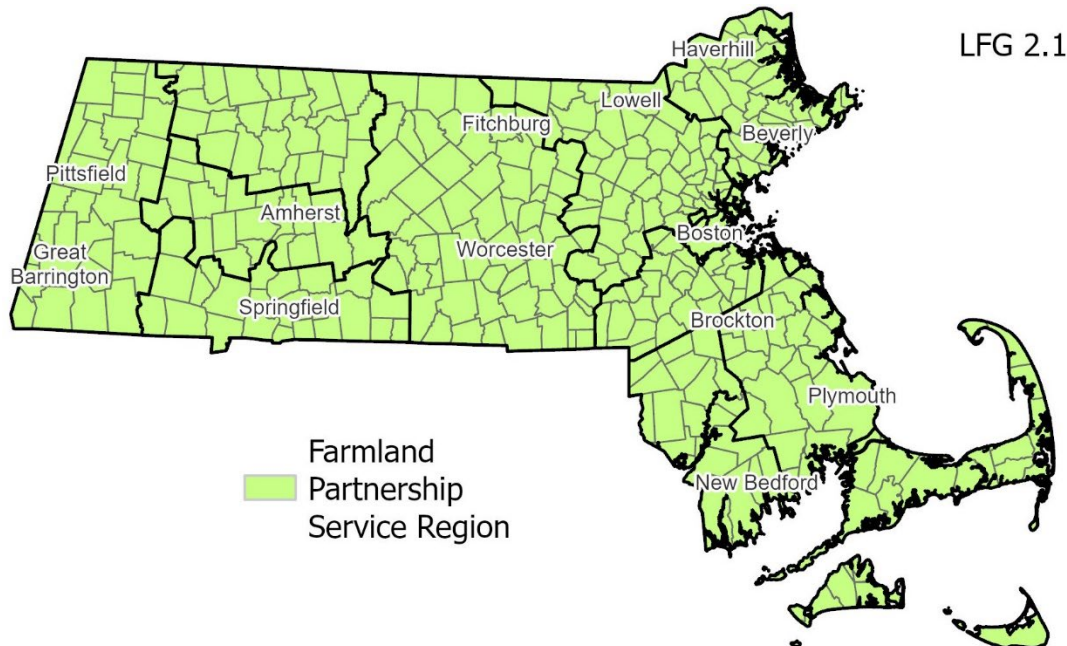
- Lead – Land For Good
- Other – None
- Contact email – Shema Blum-Evitts, [info@landforgood.org](mailto:info@landforgood.org)

### Learn more

- [Land for Good webpage that links to resources for transferring a farm](#)
- [Land for Good webpage with resources for farmers, including link to request individual assistance](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised –3/20/2026

Lead partner – Land for Good

Project – LFG 2.1

MFAP Task – 1203

Page number – 1

## Promote land linking

### What this project will do

- Increase awareness and promote farmland linking and listing tools such as New England Farmland Finder.
- Develop and host webinars on availability of New England Farmland Finder and how it works.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action II.B.1 – Support and expand farmland transfer and farmland succession education and one-to-one technical assistance (TA).
- Task 1208 – Increase awareness and promotion of farmland linking and listing tools such as New England Farmland Finder.

### Implementing partners and contact

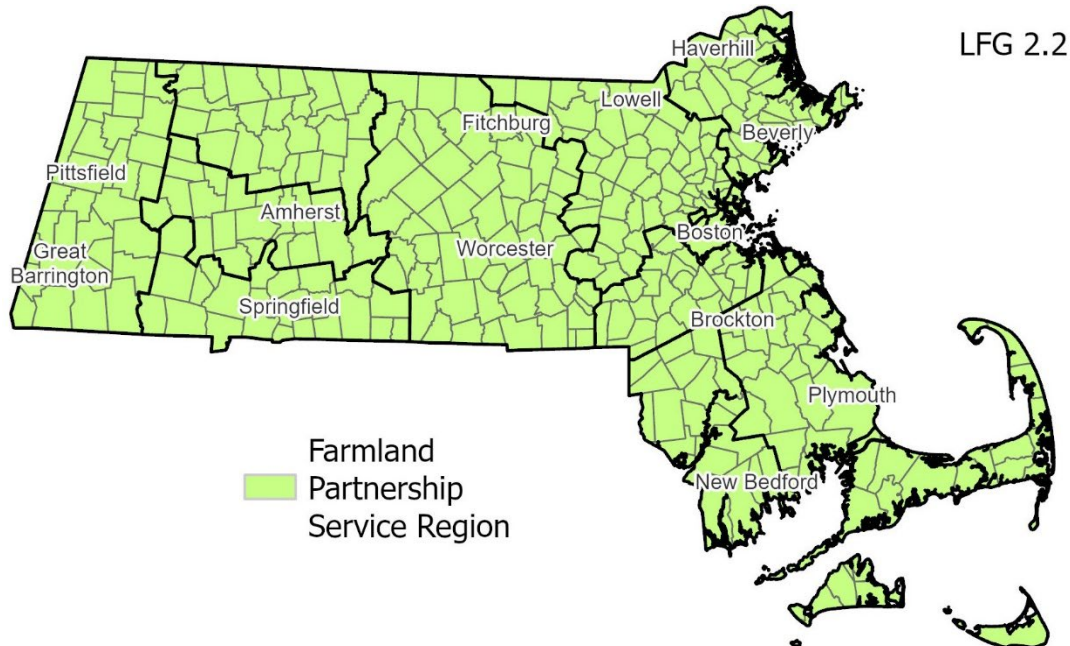
- Lead – Land For Good
- Other – None
- Contact email – Shema Blum-Evitts, [info@landforgood.org](mailto:info@landforgood.org)

### Learn more

- Visit [New England Farmland Finder](#)

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/20/2026

Lead partner – Land for Good

Project – LFG 2.2

MFAP Task – 1208

Page number – 1

## Build DEI capacity across food system partners

### What this project will do

- Lead DEI trainings for technical assistance providers.
- Conduct statewide audit of land access, conservation and farmland retention programs
- Recruit and train a cohort of BIPOC technical service providers.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action II.C.2 – Increase access to public lands for agriculture, while prioritizing Historically Underserved Farmers.
- Task 1231 – Work with non-profits and community groups focused on equity and diversity to strengthen and amplify outreach.??

### Implementing partners and contact

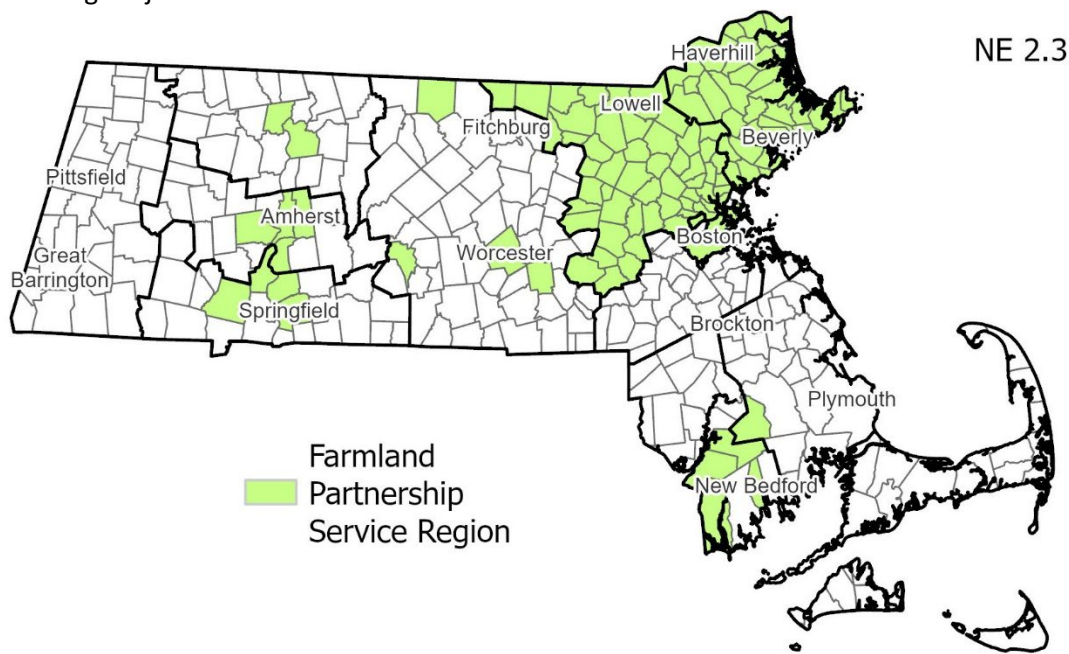
- Lead – Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT)
- Other – Nuestras Raíces, New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry)
- Contact email – Michelle Nikfarjam, [michelle@pocassetlandtrust.org](mailto:michelle@pocassetlandtrust.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves northeastern Massachusetts and other areas scattered across the state, following the service areas for the partners: Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Nuestras Raíces and New Entry Sustainable Farming Project.



Project implementing Goal II of the MFAP: Increase access to farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/25/2026

Project – NE 2.3

Lead partner – Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT)

MFAP Task – 1231

Page number – 1

## Factsheets for farm viability related projects

The following is a list of the 12 projects that are implementing Actions and Tasks from III of the MFAP – “Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland”. The task being implemented is listed by its MFAP ID in parenthesis.

Implementing Goal III of the  
MFAP: Support and enhance the  
viability of farms and farmland



### Strategy A – Ensure that laws, regulations, programs, and investments support farm viability

- Train realtors and attorneys who work with farmers (Task 1297)
- Increase the expertise of farm business advisors (Task 1298)
- Financial Facilitation (Task 1321)

### Strategy B – Grow resilience and sustainability practices on farms

- Climate change adaptation (Task 1425)

### Strategy C – Increase use of services, programs, and other resources by farmers

- Navigators for launching and growing a farming enterprise (Task 1453)
- Farmland access and farm viability training and technical assistance (Task 1449)
- Train-the-Trainer Toolkit and BIPOC cohort development (Task 1449)
- Expand regenerative peer mentorship program (Task 1354)
- Peer mentorship assessment and storytelling (Task 1354)
- Farmer mentorship and peer-to-peer programs (Task 1354)
- Learning circles with culturally appropriate outreach (Task 1356)
- BIPOC farmer-to-farmer outreach and peer support (Task 1356)

## Financial facilitation

### What this project will do

- Define and refine the role of business advisors who provide financing facilitation enabling financing readiness, consideration of financing options, and successful borrowing.
- Pilot one-to-one support for farmers in this role as financial facilitator.

**Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland**



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/24/2026  
Lead Partner – The Carrot Project  
Project – TCP 3.2  
MFAP Task – 1320 and 1321  
Page number – 1

### Tasks being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action III.A.10 – Establish a financial facilitation support function, potentially requiring new staff resources.
- Task 1320 – Establish qualifications, characteristics, and responsibilities of the financial facilitator to include racial/ethnic/language diversity; ability to effectively explain financial processes to farmers/farm owners; and a deep understanding of related services provided by banks and state agencies and public- and private-sector funding.
- Task 1321 – Ensure support is provided by an expert who understands the complexities of farm/farmland-related financing and is able to answer questions, explain the process, and serve as a liaison between bankers, farmers, and other stakeholders as appropriate, at no cost. The financial facilitator will have no equity stake in the transactions.

### Implementing partners and contact

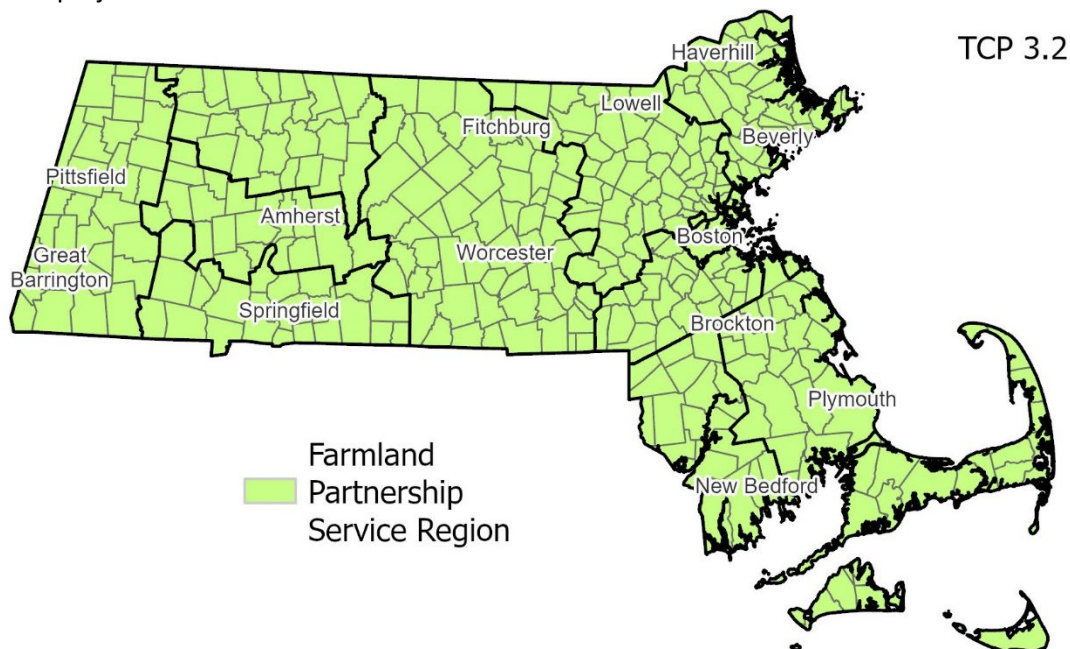
- Lead – The Carrot Project (TCP)
- Other – None
- Contact email – Jeff Cole, [jcole@thecarrotproject.org](mailto:jcole@thecarrotproject.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



## Train realtors and attorneys who work with farmers

### What this project will do

- Train realtors and attorneys about needs of farmers, risks to farmland, and opportunities to support farm transfer and alternative tenure models.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action III.A.6 – Prompt further development of industries supportive of agriculture to ensure they serve farmer, farm and farmland issues fully
- Task 1297 – Train and connect key professionals—tax advisors, appraisers, surveyors, realtors, lawyers, and others—who work with farmers and farmland owners through a strong referral system, with incentives/infrastructure to work together.??

### Implementing partners and contact

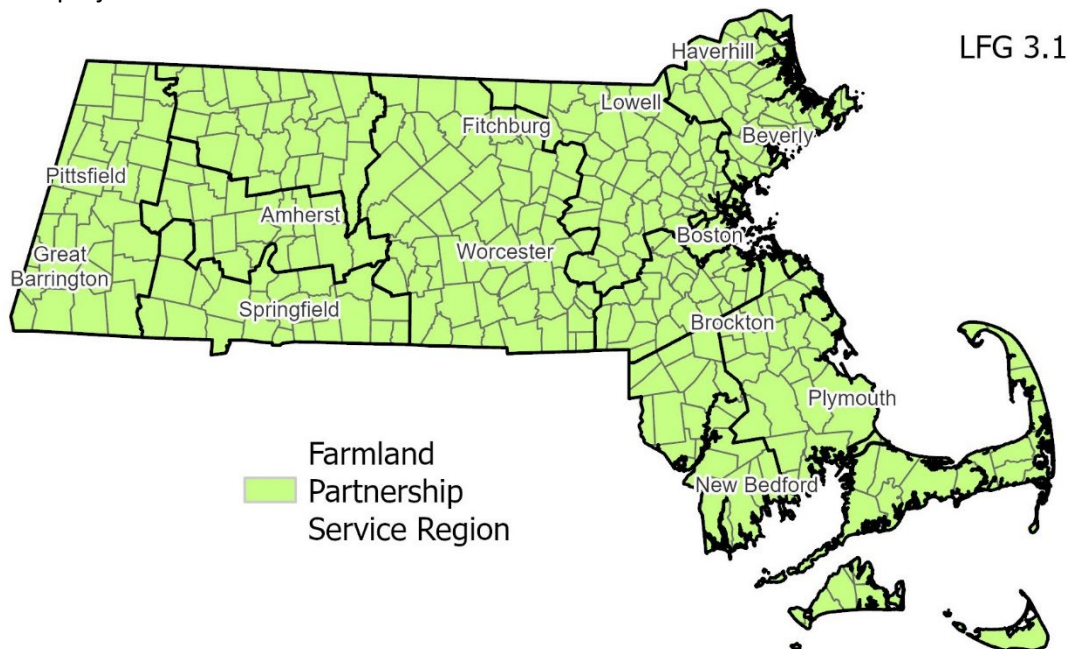
- Lead – Land For Good
- Other – None
- Contact email – Shema Blum-Evitts, [info@landforgood.org](mailto:info@landforgood.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 12/30/2025

Lead Partner – Land for Good

Project – LFG 3.1

MFAP Task – 1297

Page number – 1

## Increase the expertise of farm business advisors

### What this project will do

- Train farm business advisors in farm financials, with a focus on farm resiliency.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action III.A.6 – Prompt further development of industries supportive of agriculture to ensure they serve farmer, farm and farmland issues fully.
- Task 1298 – Support workforce development, networking, and coordination of a next generation of farm succession and farm business advisors.

Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/24/2026

Lead Partner – The Carrot Project

Project – TCP 3.4

MFAP Task – 1298

Page number – 1

### Implementing partners and contact

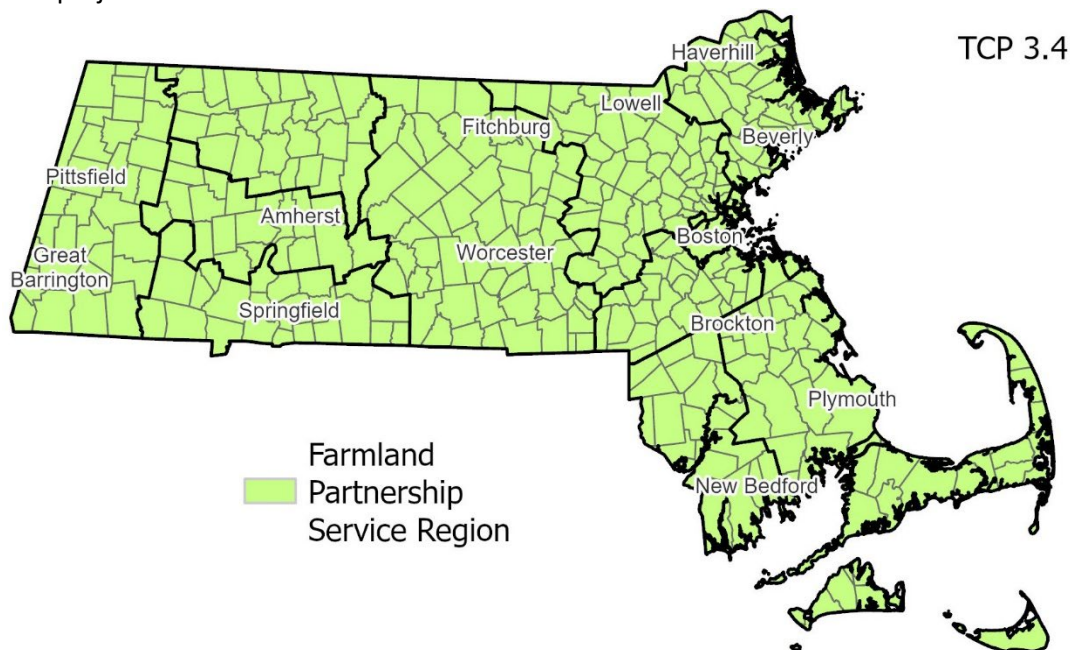
- Lead – The Carrot Project (in their role with the Agricultural Viability Alliance)
- Other – None
- Contact email – Benneth Phelps, [bp Phelps@thecarrotproject.org](mailto:bp Phelps@thecarrotproject.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



## Climate change adaptation

### What this project will do

- Develop farm-specific climate adaptation plans with farmers.
- Facilitate education and networking among farm advisors across MA about climate adaptation.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action III.B.A – Increase technical assistance to farmers around crop- and livestock-specific climate change adaptation strategies.
- Task 1425 – Create a program to support farmers with technical assistance around crop- and livestock-specific climate change adaptation strategies.

### Implementing partners and contact

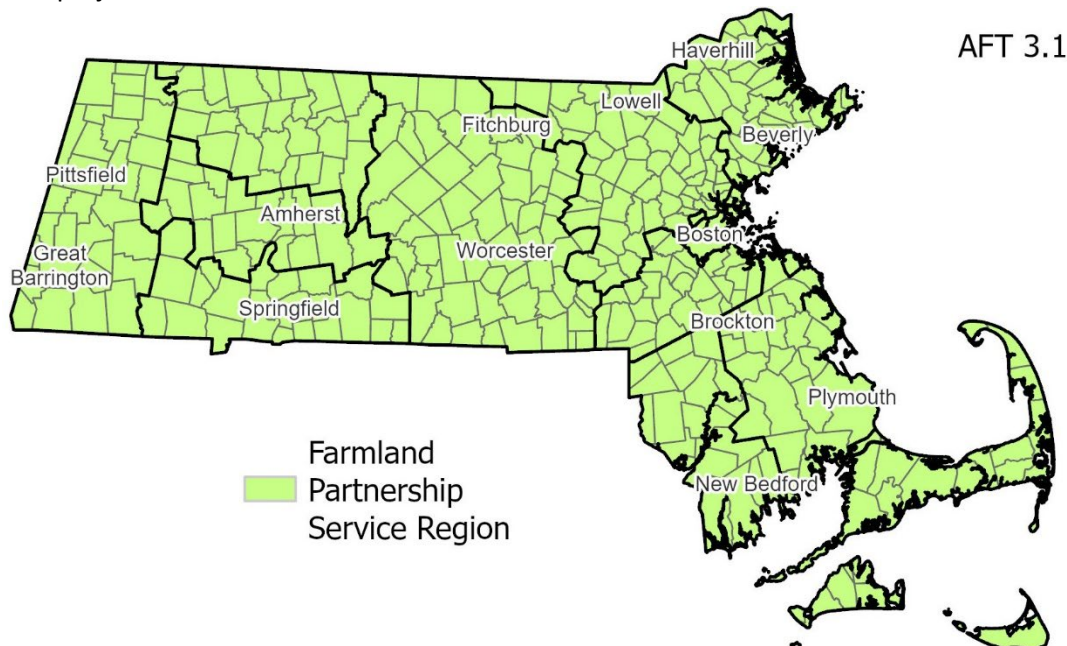
- Lead – American Farmland Trust
- Other – None
- Contact email – Kevin Antoszewski, [kantoszewski@farmland.org](mailto:kantoszewski@farmland.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/20/2026  
Lead Partner – American Farmland Trust  
Project – AFT 3.2  
MFAP Task – 1425  
Page number – 1

## Peer mentorship assessment and storytelling

### What this project will do

- Assess peer-to-peer mentorship efforts in Massachusetts and identify key themes and best practices.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>10</sup>

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1354 – Explore expanding range farmer mentorship and peer-to-peer programs.

Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/20/2026

Lead Partner – New Entry

Project – NE 3.2

MFAP Task – 1354

Page number – 1

### Implementing partners and contact

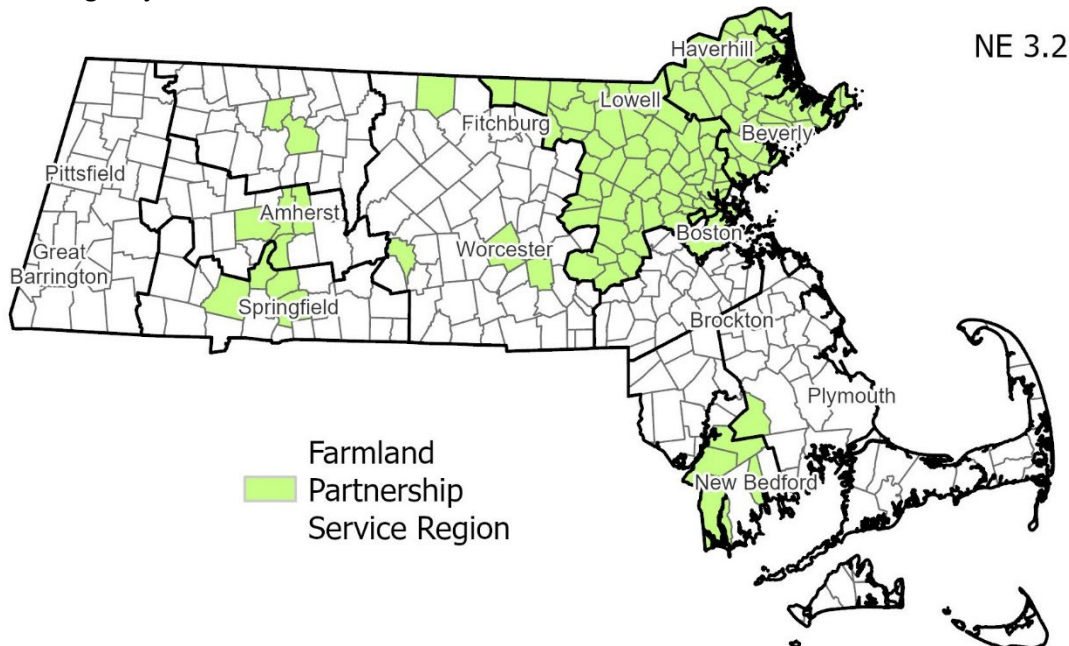
- Lead – New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry)
- Other – Nuestras Raíces, Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT)
- Contact email – Jennifer Hashley, [jennifer.hashley@tufts.edu](mailto:jennifer.hashley@tufts.edu)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves northeastern Massachusetts and other areas scattered across the state, following the service areas for the partners: Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Nuestras Raíces and New Entry Sustainable Farming Project.



<sup>10</sup> Three FPP projects implementing one task. Also see [Regenerative peer mentorship program for beginning farmers](#) and [Farmer mentorship and peer-to-peer programs](#)

## Regenerative peer mentorship program for beginning farmers

Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



### What this project will do

- Pilot and expand peer mentorship programs for beginning farmers that focus on regenerative agriculture and area led by experienced BIPOC farmers.

Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/25/2026

Lead Partner – Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust

Project – NE 3.1

MFAP Task – 1354

Page number – 1

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>11</sup>

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1354 – Explore expanding range farmer mentorship and peer-to-peer programs.???

### Implementing partners and contact

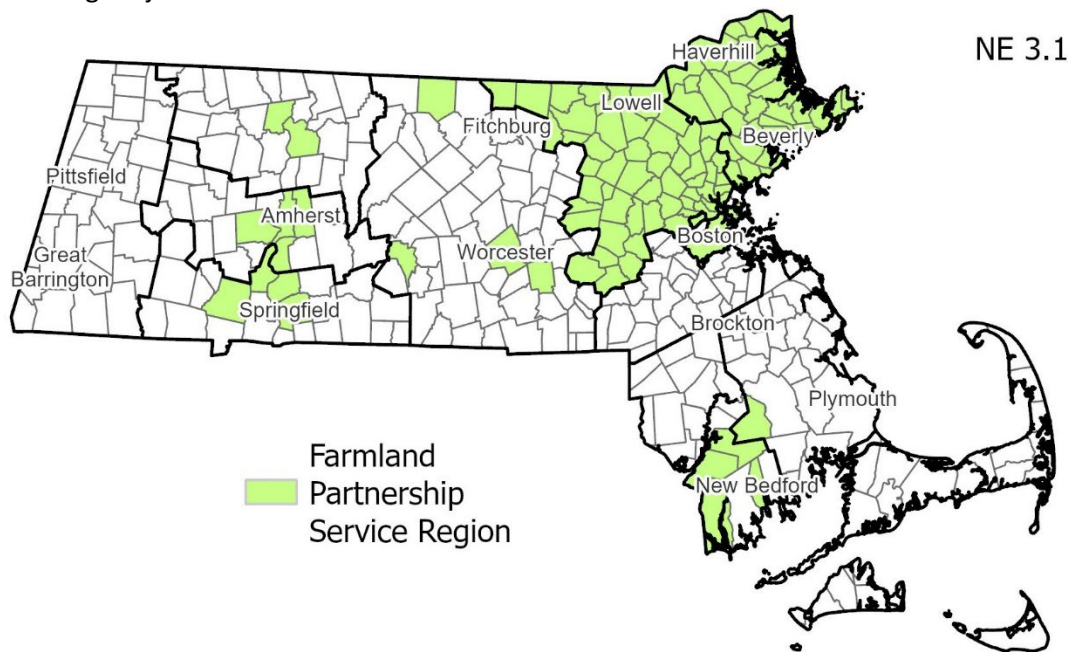
- Lead – Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT)
- Other – Nuestras Raíces, New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry)
- Contact email – Nathan Erwin, [nate@pocassetlandtrust.org](mailto:nate@pocassetlandtrust.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves northeastern Massachusetts and other areas scattered across the state, following the service areas for the partners: Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Nuestras Raíces and New Entry Sustainable Farming Project.



<sup>11</sup> Three FPP Projects implementing one task. Also see [Peer mentorship assessment and storytelling](#) and [Farmer mentorship and peer-to-peer programs](#)

## Farmer mentorship and peer-to-peer programs

### What this project will do

- Host regional farmer roundtables focusing on farm viability
- Host farmer-led, on-farm skill-shares and workshops
- Expand other networking and mentoring opportunities for farmers

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>12</sup>

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1354 – Explore expanding range farmer mentorship and peer-to-peer programs.

### Implementing partners and contact

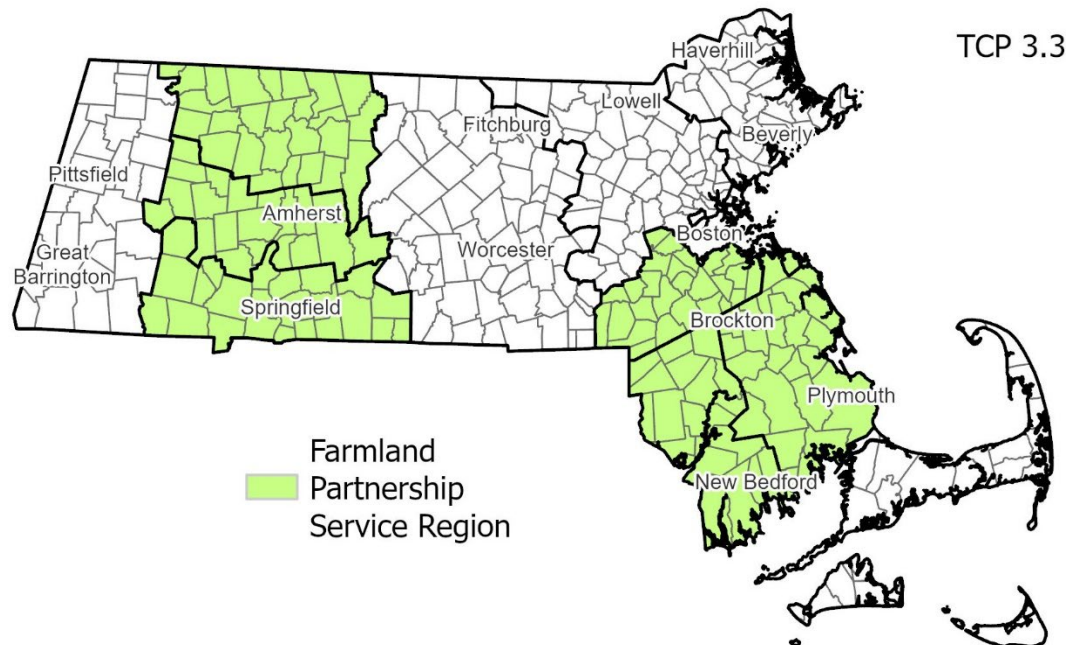
- Lead –Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership (SEMAP)
- Other – Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA)
- Contact email – Susan Murray, [smurray@semaponline.org](mailto:smurray@semaponline.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves southeastern Massachusetts and the Connecticut River Valley , as shown in the map on the right. The towns are in Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Bristol, Norfolk and Plymouth counties. It follows the service areas for Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership (SEMAP) and Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA).



<sup>12</sup> Three FPP Projects implementing one task. Also see [Peer mentorship assessment and storytelling](#) and [Regenerative peer mentorship program for beginning farmers](#)



## Navigators for launching and growing a farming enterprise

Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



### What this project will do

- Define and refine the role of a navigator who provides support to aspiring and beginning farmers as they launch and grow their farm business.
- Pilot one-to-one support for farmers in this role as navigator.

Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/24/2026  
Lead Partner – CISA  
Project – TCP 3.1  
MFAP Task – 1353  
Page number – 1

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1353 – Establish a diverse network of “navigators,” individuals based at trusted local organizations who are well-versed in the range of public and private resources, regulations, and processes, who can work one-on-one with aspiring<sup>13</sup> farmers through the entire process of launching a farming enterprise.

### Implementing partners and contact

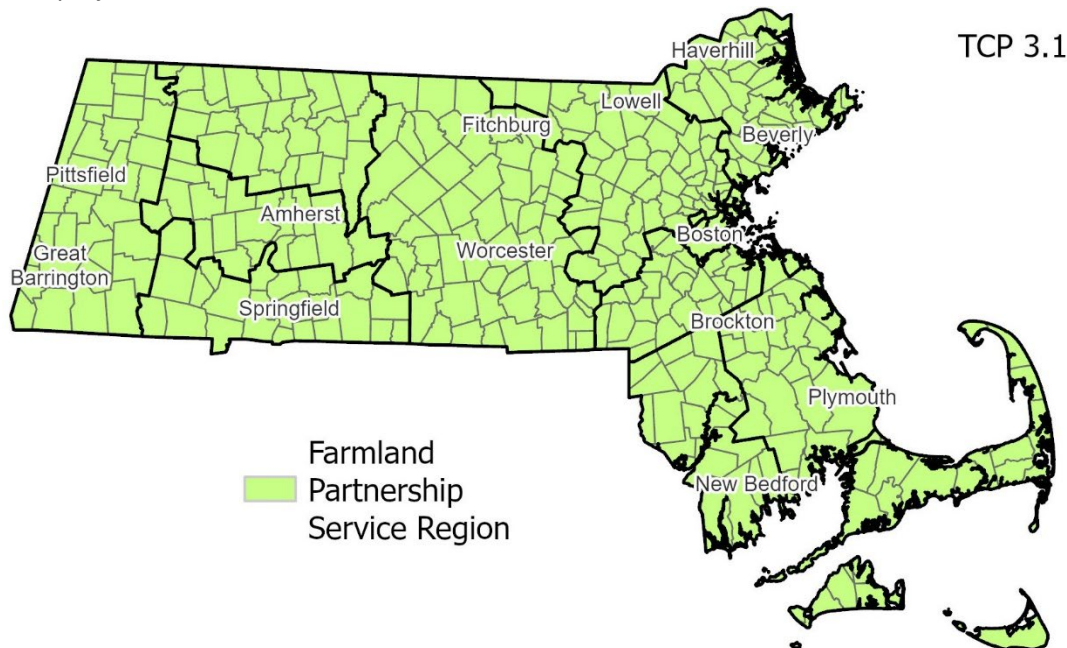
- Lead – Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA)
- Other – The Carrot Project, Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership (SEMAP)
- Contact email – Margaret Christie, [margaret@buylocalfood.org](mailto:margaret@buylocalfood.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



<sup>13</sup> Please note that for the purpose of this project, which is focusing on launching a farming enterprise, beginning farmers are included at this time. Refinement of the matrix may occur in the future.

## Farmland access and farm viability training and technical assistance Community of Practice

Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



### What this project will do

- Establish a Community of Practice (CoP) to train and support navigators that focus on farmland access and farm viability.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>14</sup>

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1449 – Establish a diverse network of “navigators,” individuals based at trusted local organizations who are well-versed in the range of public and private resources, regulations, and processes, who can work one-on-one with existing farmers through the process of sustaining a farming enterprise.???

Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 12/1/2025

Lead Partner – New Entry

Project – NE 3.3

MFAP Task – 1449

Page number – 1

### Implementing partners and contact

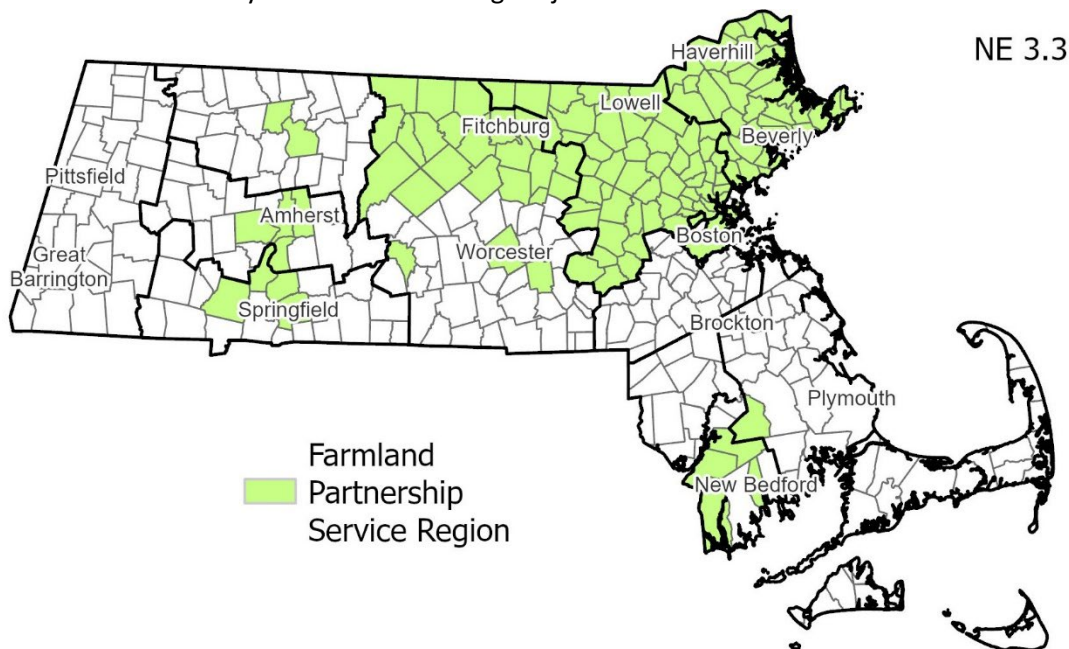
- Lead – New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry)
- Other – Nuestras Raíces, Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Growing Places
- Contact email – Jennifer Hashley, [jennifer.hashley@tufts.edu](mailto:jennifer.hashley@tufts.edu)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves northeastern and north central Massachusetts and other areas scattered across the state, following the service areas for the partners: Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Nuestras Raíces, Growing Places and New Entry Sustainable Farming Project.



<sup>14</sup> Two FPP projects implementing one task. Also see [Train-the-trainer toolkit and BIPOC cohort development](#)

## Train-the-trainer toolkit and BIPOC cohort development

### What this project will do

- Create a multilingual toolkit and launch a “Train-the-Trainer” for delivering culturally responsive farm support.
- Train BIPOC technical assistance providers embedded in trusted

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>15</sup>

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1449 – Establish a diverse network of “navigators,” individuals based at trusted local organizations who are well-versed in the range of public and private resources, regulations, and processes, who can work one-on-one with existing farmers through the process of sustaining a farming enterprise.

### Implementing partners and contact

- Lead – Growing Places
- Other – New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry), Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT)
- Contact email – Ayn Yeagle, [ayn@growingplaces.org](mailto:ayn@growingplaces.org)

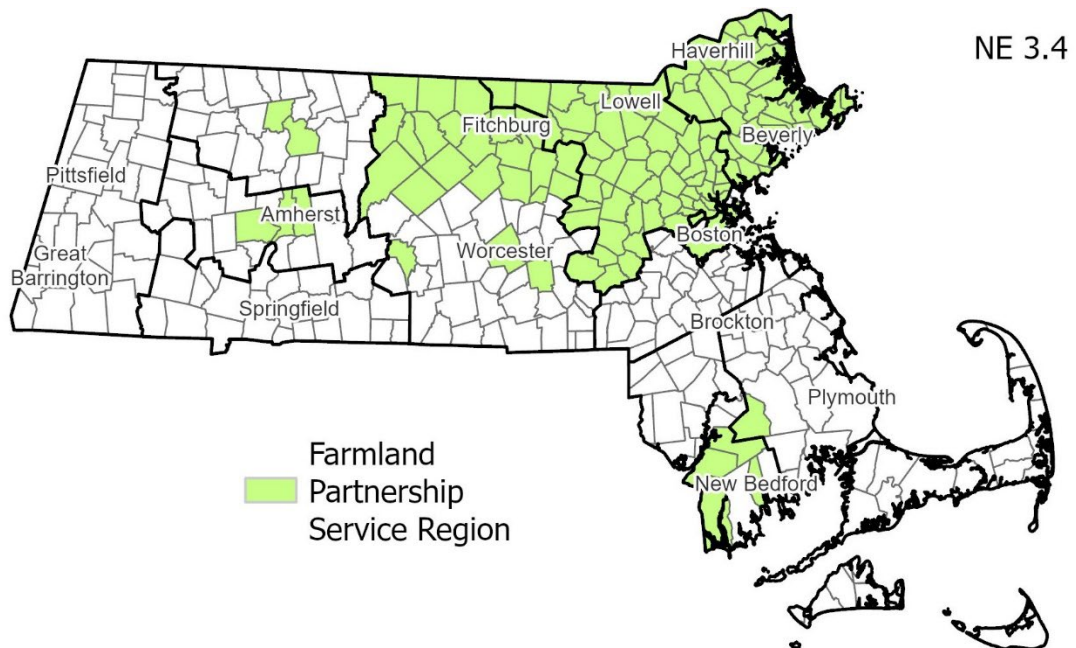
### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves northeastern and north central Massachusetts and other areas scattered across the state, following the service areas for the partners: Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Nuestras Raíces, Growing Places and New

Entry Sustainable Farming Project.



Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/25/2026  
Lead Partner – Growing Places  
Project – NE 3.4  
MFAP Task – 1449  
Page number – 1

<sup>15</sup> Two FPP projects implementing one task. Also see [Farmland access and farm viability training and technical assistance Community of Practice](#)

## BIPOC Farmer-to-Farmer Outreach and Peer Support

### What this project will do

- BIPOC technical assistance providers will share resources, strategies, technical assistance, and build peer support relationships among BIPOC farmers to promote land equity.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>16</sup>

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1356 – Support culturally appropriate outreach by other experienced farmers of color.???

### Implementing partners and contact

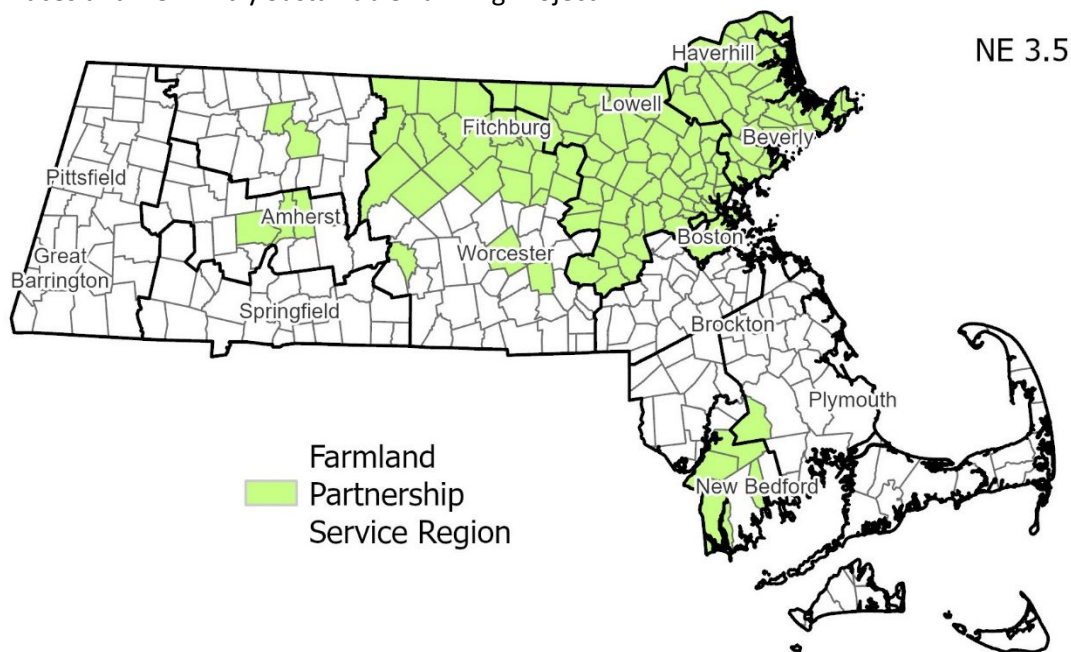
- Lead – Growing Places
- Other – New Entry Sustainable Farming Project (New Entry), Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT)
- Contact email – Michelle Nikfarjam, [michelle@pocassetlandtrust.org](mailto:michelle@pocassetlandtrust.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves northeastern and north central Massachusetts and other areas scattered across the state, following the service areas for the partners: Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust (PPLT), Nuestras Raíces, Growing Places and New Entry Sustainable Farming Project.



Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet

Last revised – 3/25/2026

Lead Partner – Growing Places

Project – NE 3.5

MFAP Task – 1356

Page number – 1

<sup>16</sup> Two FPP projects implementing one task. Also see [Learning circles with culturally appropriate outreach](#).

## Learning circles with culturally appropriate outreach

### What this project will do

- Convene learning circles for BIPOC farmers led by experienced farmers of color that focus on food production and trusted pathways to access knowledge, markets and other resources.

### Task being implemented from the MA Farmland Action Plan<sup>17</sup>

- Action III.C.2 – Expand opportunities for one-to-one assistance for farmers, prioritizing beginning and historically underserved farmers and aspiring farmers.
- Task 1356 – Support culturally appropriate outreach by other experienced farmers of color.??

### Implementing partners and contact

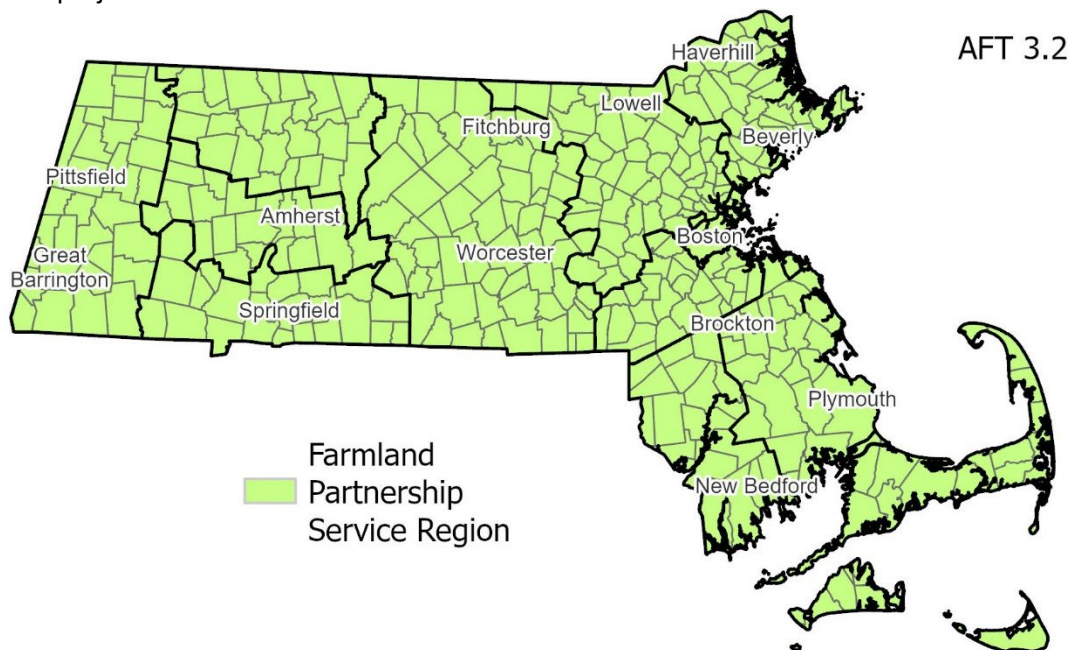
- Lead – American Farmland Trust (AFT)
- Other – None
- Contact email – Charline Xu, [cxu@farmland.org](mailto:cxu@farmland.org)

### Learn more

- Coming soon!

### Geographic area

This project serves all of Massachusetts.



Project implementing Goal III of the MFAP: Support and enhance the viability of farms and farmland



Farmland Partnership Program Factsheet  
Last revised – 3/24/2026  
Lead Partner – American Farmland Trust  
Project – AFT 3.2  
MFAP Task – 1356  
Page number – 1

<sup>17</sup> Two FPP projects implementing one task. Also see [BIPOC Farmer-to-Farmer Outreach and Peer Support](#).