



Agricultural
Preservation
Restriction
Program

MDAR APR Program Application for Special Permit – Alternative Use

Special Permit (SP) Application Requirements & Information

- Upon review, the APR Program reserves the right to request additional materials such as contracts, business plans, projected income, site plans, management plans, surety bonds or letters of credit.
- Special Permit applications will be reviewed using our program guidelines: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/apr-special-permit-policy/download>
- For information regarding the location of prime agricultural soils on your APR, please visit: <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx> or contact your assigned Stewardship Planner for assistance.
- No excavation to support the non-agricultural activity can occur.
- Permanent structures are not allowed. Temporary structures must be removed after the activity is complete.
- Activities related to this application may not begin prior to receiving a recordable Special Permit from the Department.
- Special Permits are limited to a maximum of 5 years duration, may be renewed, and cannot be transferred.
- In instances where the APR document is more restrictive than the Department's Special Permit Policy for non-agricultural activities, the landowner must comply with the APR terms.

Landowner Contact (name, address, phone & email): _____

Name of Original Grantor of APR & Address of APR: _____

Is the APR Co-held by a municipality? Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure ☐

The Co-holder is identified in the APR document or a separately recorded Co-holder Agreement. If yes, you may need to request additional approval from the Co-holder.

1. Describe the special permit use(s):

This application should be used for any non-agricultural commercial uses that are not event-based.

MDAR APR Program Application for Special Permit – Alternative Use

2. Describe the current commercial agricultural operation:

3. How will this activity directly or indirectly benefit the agricultural operation?

4. Please provide the following details:

| | |
|--|--|
| Date(s) or timeframe of use | |
| Proposed income from Special Permit Uses | |
| Gross Annual Agricultural Income from Prior Year (\$) | |
| APR acreage utilized for Special Permit use(s) | |

5. Describe the location(s) for the proposed non-agricultural use:

Locations cannot interfere with the actual use or future use of the land or structure for agricultural production. Activities that occur on prime, state or locally important agricultural soils will receive special scrutiny.

6. How will impact to the protected soils, water resources, or other natural resources be minimized?

Types of impact to consider and minimize include compaction, erosion, organic matter depletion, flooding, emissions, etc.

MDAR APR Program Application for Special Permit – Alternative Use

7. Describe any additional needs such as alterations to existing structures or utilities:

No excavation is permitted for special permit activities.

8. Do you have any draft agreements with a third-party for management of the special permit use?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please attach a copy to this application and include third-party contact information:

Company Name & Location: _____

Contact Information (name, phone & email): _____

9. Have you already had initial discussions about this proposal with your municipality?

Yes ☐ No ☐ **Pending*** ☐

If your APR has a co-holder, you are required to share a copy of this application with them and obtain co-holder approval before the Department can make a final decision on your application.

10. **You must include the following attachment to this application:**

☐ A map/layout plan showing the location of the proposed location(s)

Landowner signature: _____ Date: _____

Landowner signature: _____ Date: _____

This space can be used for any additional comments or information (optional):