

Massachusetts Farmland Action Plan Implementation Newsletter

Guidance for non-MDAR content and articles

Last updated 10/7/2025

Implementation of the Farmland Action Plan (MFAP) is grounded in collaboration and partnership. Until now the MFAP Newsletter has focused on what MDAR has been doing while adjusting to emerging needs as implementation picks up. It is important going forward, the Newsletter reflects the broader range of partners who are and will be implementing parts of the MFAP.

What is the Farmland Action Plan (MFAP) Newsletter?

It is a regularly emailed update about work being done to implement the MFAP. Updates are emailed approximately monthly.

It currently has several components. Additional components may be added as needs arise.

- a) Plan Spotlights – Short articles about working being done to implement one or more tasks in the plan. This can include opportunities to provide input and new technical support.
- b) Meetings and Events – Upcoming meeting and event announcements relevant for implementation of the Plan
- c) Funding opportunities – Not intended to replace the Farm and Market report, but share funding opportunities that support implementation of part of the plan
- d) Other News – Share articles printed in other places that are related to Plan Implementation
- e) Explore the Plan – Updates about resources related to Plan implementation

Seeking content and announcements!

We invite you to share brief content and announcements that may be relevant to the components listed above.

All submissions must be in the format of content or an announcement suitable for an e-newsletter. 1-3 paragraphs are recommended. The content must include at least one sentence that ties the article to a specific task, with task ID, from the implementation matrix. The content provided should be fact based, not an opinion or editorial, and can not advocate for changes in public policy or funding.

What will be published?

MDAR will review the article. MDAR staff have the sole discretion to choose which content may be published in the newsletter according to a variety of factors including, but not limited to:

- Relevance to implementing a specific task(s) of the MFAP
- Appropriateness of content/ announcement
- Timeliness of content/ announcement
- Turn around time until the next newsletter is published
- How content/ announcement fits with others already lined up for next newsletter.
- Whether the content is likely to be included in another MDAR publication, such as the Farm and Market Report.

MDAR may not publish any or all of the content provided. The organization/ subject of the article will be asked to review it for accuracy before publishing.

The article will be linked in the MFAP newsletter, rather than the full text being included in the body of the newsletter.

When is the deadline?

The newsletter is not currently published on a regular schedule, although it is at least monthly. Instead it is published according to need and available articles. Please submit your content/ announcement when it is ready.

Please be aware it may be at least 30 days before your content/ announcement is published in the newsletter. Please reach out ahead of time if something is time sensitive and may have a short turn around time. MDAR may be unable to accommodate these requests, but will try to accommodate where possible.

Contact

For more information and to submit potential articles to Katharine Otto, Farmland Action Plan Coordinator, Katharine.s.otto@mass.gov