

**Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
Farm Viability Enhancement Program
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL ON AGRICULTURAL COVENANT**

Your Name /Farm Name _____ Phone & Email _____

Name of landowner(s) who signed the covenant _____

Year covenant was signed _____

What are you requesting written approval for on your land that is currently under an agricultural covenant?

Please check one of following options:

- 1. The construction or placing of a residential dwelling, including appurtenant improvements and amenities, such as driveway, septic system, or any other underground sanitary system, water system, or other utility.
- 2. The construction or placing of Permanent Structures for agriculturally related uses, including related retail sales, not contained in an approved Farm Viability Plan.
- 3. The excavation, dredging, depositing or removal from the Premises of loam, peat, gravel, soil, sand, rock or other mineral resources, or natural deposits in accordance with a USDA/NRCS Plan.
- 4. The subdivision, recording of a subdivision plan, partition, or any other division of the Premises, or any portion thereof, into two or more parcels, even in the event that the Premises is comprised of one or more separate deeded parcels at the time of execution of this Covenant.*
- 5. The performing of commercial non-Agricultural Uses and activities for which the Grantor receives payment, compensation, or any other type of monetary or non-monetary remuneration.
- Other (please state) _____

**To request approval for a subdivision of the property, please enclose with this form a legal description for the parcel proposed for removal along with a map of the property in which this area is outlined.*

Please describe the activity that you checked above and explain the need for it:

To request approval for a structure (#1 or #2 above), please answer the following questions:

- 1) Will the proposed structure be:
 - a) Temporary (does not have a permanent foundation or does not substantially alter or otherwise affect the soil profile) **or**
 - b) Permanent (requires the grading of soil, or the excavation for footings or foundations or which substantially alters or otherwise affect the soil profile)
- 2) Is proposed location of the structure on land currently under an agricultural covenant? Yes No

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If you checked 1b and Yes to 2 above, for a proposed permanent structure to be located on land under the covenant, then please answer the following additional questions:

1) Will this be: a) a new structure or b) an addition to an existing structure?

2) How will the building be used? _____

If it is to be a farm stand or store, what percentage of products to be sold will be agricultural products grown/raised on your farm? _____

3) What occurs on this site currently? _____

4) Would any land be taken out of production? Yes No

If **Yes**, how many acres? _____ and is there a planned alternative space for this production to continue on the farm? If **Yes**, please explain _____

What is estimated net increase or decrease in acreage in production as a result of the project? +/- _____

5) Will any excavation be necessary to prepare the site for construction? Yes No

If **Yes**, please explain: _____

6) What utilities (water or electric) will be needed and how will they be connected to the building?

7) How will any waste (wastewater, manure or other) be managed on site?

8) What is the estimated timeframe for permitting and construction of this new structure?

**** Please enclose an aerial photo or parcel map with a sketch to show the proposed location of the structure on the site with dimensions. If the covenant includes more than one parcel please indicate which parcel the structure would be located on.***

Please return this form, along with any required attachments, to:

Melissa Adams

Farm Viability Enhancement Program

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

138 Memorial Ave, Suite 42

West Springfield, MA 01089