

MAGIC Agricultural Planning Program



Project Background

The Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC) Subregion is comprised of thirteen municipalities that include the least densely populated areas of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's (MAPC) region. These communities are particularly susceptible to encroaching development on lands that are suitable for agricultural production. With funding provided through the Sustainable Communities Program, MAPC is working with project partners and stakeholders to establish a Comprehensive Agricultural Planning Program for the Subregion. The goal of the Planning Program is to increase the economic viability of farming and protect sustainable foodsheds within the MAGIC Subregion. The project will provide solutions to promote increased food production and marketing to areas inside and outside the Subregion. Numerous farm service organizations and municipalities are involved in the project.



Partners:

There are numerous stakeholders involved in the project. Those receiving grant funding for their direct service include: Sudbury Valley Trustees, Land for Good, Conservation Law Foundation, and Tufts New Entry Sustainable Farming Project. Partners providing leveraged resources include The Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation, the Municipal Association of Agricultural Commission (including all local Agricultural Commissions), Massachusetts Department of Agriculture, and the Towns of Bolton, Boxborough, Concord, Lincoln, Littleton, and Stow.

Results

Building upon the work of supporting agricultural organizations, the project will result in:

- Identification of the most critical challenges to farmers and land owners
- Development of best management tools that are currently not available
- Development of action items for implementation of these practices at the local level

Questions: Please contact Julie Conroy at jconroy@mapc.org or (617) 933-0749

Subregional Agricultural Forum

Please join us for an important gathering of stakeholders to discuss challenges and consider potential solutions to increase the economic viability of farming in the subregion.

Tuesday, March 5, 6:00-9:00 PM

Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, 680 Hudson Road, Sudbury MA

RSVP to Amanda Chisholm at achisholm@mapc.org or (617) 933-0736