

# MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

## Meeting Held via Remote Technology

### MEETING MINUTES JULY 15, 2020

#### **PRESENT:**

Brian Pridgeon, Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Dru Montri, Vice Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Charlie Meintz, Secretary, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Patricia Bergdahl, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Tim Boring, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Gary McDowell, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Pridgeon advised today's meeting is being conducted via remote technology to protect the health of Commission members, the state, and the public due to the Coronavirus by limiting the number of people at public gatherings. He announced that all decisions today will be made by roll call vote and shared details on how the public comment period would be conducted.

Chairperson Pridgeon called the meeting of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to order at 9:00 a.m. on July 15, 2020, and called the roll with Commissioners Bergdahl, Boring, Meintz, Montri, and Pridgeon, and Director McDowell present.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA FOR JULY 15, 2020. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

#### **APPROVAL OF JUNE 9, 2020, MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MONTRI MOVED TO APPROVE THE JUNE 9, 2020, MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MEINTZ. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

#### **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting is September 16, 2020, location to be determined.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND TRAVEL**

Commissioners shared information relative to agriculture in their respective areas, including growing conditions and production, as well as changes in the marketplace due to COVID-19. There was no travel submitted for approval.

#### **COMMISSIONER ISSUES**

Commissioner Pridgeon reviewed a retirement resolution honoring Carol M. Kirvan, a 30-year employee with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD).

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED THE RESOLUTION HONORING CAROL M. KIRVAN BE ADOPTED WITH BEST WISHES FOR HER LONG AND HEALTHY RETIREMENT. COMMISSIONER BORING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director McDowell shared details of various meetings he has convened remotely over the last few months, including the Ag Housing Workgroup, Food and Agriculture Stakeholder calls, and Midwest Agriculture Directors meetings. In August, he will be conducting virtual staff meetings, which will include a mental health presentation.

He shared details of the first ever Food and Agriculture Virtual Job Fair held on June 24, which the department hosted in conjunction with the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. He noted Governor Whitmer will be hosting several virtual meetings with state employees who have done exceptional work throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

The department's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan kicked off in late June. The plan will be implemented through continued awareness and educational and engagement activities throughout the department.

In response to Governor's Executive Order 2020-137 on migrant housing, MDARD inspectors are working quickly to visit each housing facility to protect the health of our migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families. He detailed the requirements for housing owners and operators listed within that order.

In response to inquiries from Commissioner Meintz, the Director advised the department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) did consult with MDARD when developing their manure management plans, which are currently in litigation. Implementation of the new procedures for migrant labor housing has been well received and most operations were already doing the right things.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Matt Channing**, from the **Kent County Health Department**, expressed his appreciation for MDARD's partnership with the counties relative to the migrant labor efforts around COVID-19. The Director advised the department also appreciates the local health departments, who have been doing a phenomenal job with this very difficult issue.

### **MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM (MAEAP) STANDARDS INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED REVISIONS: Jim Johnson, Division Director, and Joe Kelpinski, MAEAP Program Manager, Environmental Stewardship Division**

Mr. Johnson noted the Commission has the statutory responsibility to annually approve the MAEAP Standards, changes for which are being introduced today. The resultant newly proposed standards represent many hours of work by the dedicated committees.

Mr. Kelpinski advised the MAEAP Standards binders are organized by Risk A\*Syst Tools, with proposed changes being the first document for each section and explained organization of and purpose for the various other documents. The standards are being introduced today and most represent only minor changes for clarification purposes. He reviewed two items changed to improve assessment of historical sites and noted proposed changes to the Livestock Section were made in coordination with the 2020 Site Selection Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices.

The Commission will have the next two months to review and formulate any questions for discussion during the September Commission meeting. Any questions in the meantime can be directed to Mr. Kelpinski.

Commissioner Montri asked if the program has seen growth in any of the different systems, or interest overall in the standards. Mr. Kelpinski advised the Cropping System continues to be the strongest system, followed closely by the Farmstead System, with uniform growth seen across all systems.

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY (EGLE)  
HIGH WATER SUMMIT: Josh Neyhart, Senior Environmental Policy Advisor, Michigan  
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**

Mr. Neyhart advised a task force was established by EGLE with several other pertinent state agencies that is looking broadly and holistically at the high water level problem in Michigan. The key focus has been the Great Lakes, where the remarkably high levels have caused serious problems because of massive erosion. EGLE initiated a website with numerous resources available for all Michigan lakes. To further assist producers, MDARD continually updates its webpage and is developing a tool that illustrates river and lake levels. The inter-agency group continues to monitor the situation, discuss how to best share resources, and assist lake-side communities.

Earlier this year, a High Water Summit was conducted which brought together every aspect from the state and national levels. The National Weather Service was predicting more rainfall this spring than last. Fortunately, that did not happen, and farmers are having a healthier crop this year. As more information becomes available, it will be shared with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Meintz inquired regarding the logging industry relative to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources preventing construction of roads across certain low-lying areas, which stops producers from reaching some parcels of land. Mr. Neyhart advised he will bring that issue to the next meeting of the task force.

Commissioner Montri asked if there were predictions of when the lake levels might begin to recede. Mr. Neyhart advised forecasters are not expecting levels to come down within the next year. Because of numerous variables, it remains a forecasting challenge.

**RECESS AND RECONVENE**

Chairperson Pridgeon recessed the meeting at 9:50 a.m. for a brief break. He reconvened the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

**ANIMAL INDUSTRY ACT CHANGES AND IMPACT: Nora Wineland, State Veterinarian and Division Director, Animal Industry Division**

Dr. Wineland advised the goal in updating the Animal Industry Act was to provide the ability to more effectively address disease emergencies and to clarify and streamline organization of the act, which became effective February 19, 2020.

She reviewed details of the changes, including extraordinary emergencies, alignment with FDA requirements, communication with impacted industries, and scientifically based orders. She also reviewed changes specific to fairs and exhibitions, gestating sows, egg laying hens, CVI (clinical and vaccine immunology) requirements, authority on livestock-related issues, and requirements related to privately-owned cervids.

In response to inquiries from Commissioner Meintz, Dr. Wineland advised animals are required to have a health certificate when coming into the state and this applies to dogs as well. MDARD's ability to regulate occurs when a certificate from the state of origin is submitted, and if outside that legal movement, it might be obtained when a dog visits a veterinarian. Dog breeders of a certain size are required to obtain a state license. Privately-owned cervid operations bear the costs for required testing of their animals and smaller facilities would fall under the herd certification program.

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPLOYMENT SUPPORTING MICHIGAN'S RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS AND  
EMERGENCY PLANS FOR FAIRS: Brad Deacon, Director, Legal Affairs and Emergency  
Management; Elizabeth Weier, Emergency Management Training, Exercise, and Planning  
Coordinator; April Hunt, Manager, Emergency Response and Enforcement Unit, Food  
and Dairy Division; and Stevie Glaspie, Animal Feed Program Specialist, Pesticide and  
Plant Management Division**

Mr. Deacon advised MDARD had a unique opportunity to support the COVID-19 response in Michigan through its existing emergency management plans and utilizing the nationally recognized Incident Command System (ICS). The need for temporary care hospitals became evident and Chief Deputy Director McFarlane assisted with management and organization of that effort at Novi. The Michigan State Police Emergency Homeland Security Division sent a request for state employees with advanced ICS experience to serve on teams to establish and manage field hospital facilities in Detroit and Novi. MDARD was ultimately able to deploy 15 staff to those sites, as well as four laboratory employees who supported the state health laboratory.

Ms. Weir and Ms. Glaspie shared specifics and their personal experiences around the field hospital created at the Suburban Collection Place in Novi, including construction and design, ICS team deployment, partner organizations, training, operation of the facility, and the partial demobilization process. MDARD's investment in ICS made this possible; the system works, and the structure and processes can be applied to manage any hazard or emergency event. Each staff person serving made a huge personal commitment and agrees this was an incredible opportunity to apply their training. The partial demobilization provides for the facility to stand ready for reactivation should there be a surge in COVID-19 cases.

Ms. Hunt shared similar details around her deployment to the field hospital created at TFC in Detroit. The MDARD team was deployed to an operational hospital facility as

support for planning and logistics needs. ICS demonstrated how well different partner teams can come together, effectively apply those principles, and manage a facility.

All expressed appreciation to the Commission and MDARD for their commitment to train staff in ICS, which made this tremendous opportunity possible. The link to a video created by MDARD Communications highlighting the team deployments will be shared with the Commissioners.

Mr. Deacon advised the experience demonstrated the department has many dedicated people willing to step up and accomplish amazing things to support the state during very challenging times. The Commission expressed their great appreciation for the expertise of MDARD staff and their willingness to assist during this crisis.

Mr. Deacon advised updated information on emergency planning for fairs is available on MDARD's website. It includes a guide focusing on county fairs, as well as a document with several exercise scenarios, with flexibility from internal to coordination with other local and state agencies.

**BUDGET UPDATE: Maria Tyszkiewicz, Chief Budget/Financial Officer**

Ms. Tyszkiewicz reviewed changes to the MDARD Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 budget and the FY 2021 Governor's recommended budget. As a result of the pandemic, the state budget has experienced extraordinary strain, with estimated deficits being \$2-3 billion for both fiscal years. General Fund reductions are being negotiated, the FY 2020 budget will be finalized when the Legislature returns later this month, a Special Revenue Estimating Conference will be held in August, and the final FY 2021 budget is expected early in the fall.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Nathan Kark, Legislative Liaison**

Mr. Kark referred to the MDARD Legislative Update provided to the Commissioners and discussed the status around bills of interest to the department, noting MDARD continues to work with legislators to improve those bills not supported by the department or needing further clarification to improve effectiveness.

Commissioner Meintz asked what the total extra revenue required would be relative to the proposed increase in funding in the Drains Code legislation. Mr. Kark advised he has not yet seen the figures in that regard, will obtain updated numbers, and share with the Commission.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER MONTRI SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Attachments:

- A) *Agenda*
- B) *June 9, 2020, meeting minutes*
- C) *Retirement Resolution for Carol M. Kirvan*

- D) *Director's Update – July 15, 2020*
- E) *MAEAP Standards Proposed Revisions*
- F) *Animal Industry Act Changes Presentation*
- G) *Incident Management Team Presentation*
- H) *Fairgrounds Emergency Plans*
- I) *Fairgrounds Emergency Exercise Scenarios*
- J) *MDARD Budget Report – July 15, 2020*
- K) *MDARD Legislative Update – June 30, 2020*

DRAFT

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**  
**September 16, 2020 - Ag Commission Meeting**

**Summer Virtual Staff Meetings**

On August 17-18, MDARD hosted an All Employee Meeting focusing on mental health, DEI activities, and an overall MDARD update. While I was unable to participate due to a family medical emergency, I understand that Eric Karbowski, MSU Extension Educator, provided an excellent and resourceful presentation on farm stress.

We also took this opportunity to give a COVID shout-out to all staff who have continued to show utmost professionalism; particularly during these difficult situations -- some of them taking the brunt of criticism and frustration by our producers and processors especially as it relates to worker testing. Their expertise and efficiency have been recognized by many. Our field staff are the eyes and ears of the industry, and it's important that they continue to elevate issues to their supervisors, division directors, and the Executive Office when necessary.

There are many Executive Orders and Executive Directives; some changing and/or being amended/extended as we go. To assist with version control, MDARD developed a reference document for staff to use as a resource (located on the Sharepoint).

Finally, we reiterated to staff that it's important they recharge their batteries as summer winds down. Find time to catch up with family and friends in a safe manner before we move into fall work activities.

**Return to Work**

In mid-August, the Office of the State Employer notified state employees that we will be working remotely until at least October 31. We understand some families may be experiencing limitations with kids going back to school and daycare. Supervisors are working with impacted staff to identify an agreeable/flexible work plan.

As part of the MDARD Safe Re-Start Plan, the department has implemented a health screening form for anyone leaving their home work station and going out into the field or entering Constitution Hall, Heffron and Geagley Labs, or the Atlanta Office.

**Ag Housing Workgroup**

On August 13, MDARD wrapped up the final town hall targeted toward northeast Michigan and the Upper Peninsula where we discussed opportunities and challenges with securing ample housing for our food and ag workers; particularly the processing industry. This effort is further compounded by the recent isolation requirement for workers testing positive for COVID-19.

There was excellent participation and engagement by growers, community leaders, economic development teams, and other state agencies. A final report with recommendations will be prepared by the Housing Taskforce – to be released later this fall.

**NASDA Meeting**

This year's NASDA meeting was held virtually on August 28 & 31; and September 1-3. Given that it was held virtually, MDARD division directors and Executive Office team were able to participate as well. Secretary Sonny Perdue addressed the group on August 31.



# Overview – MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

Rich Pirog, Director

MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

Michigan Commission of Agriculture and  
Rural Development meeting

September 16, 2020

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Center for  
Regional Food Systems



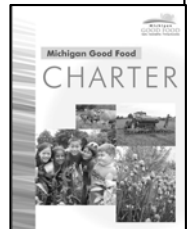
# MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

## Who we are

- Established in 2012
- 15 staff (12 specialists)
- Focused on outreach and applied research
- Scope: Michigan (70%) and National (25%), Africa (5%)
- 90% funding from grants and 10% from MSU Extension
- Department of Community Sustainability and MSU Extension

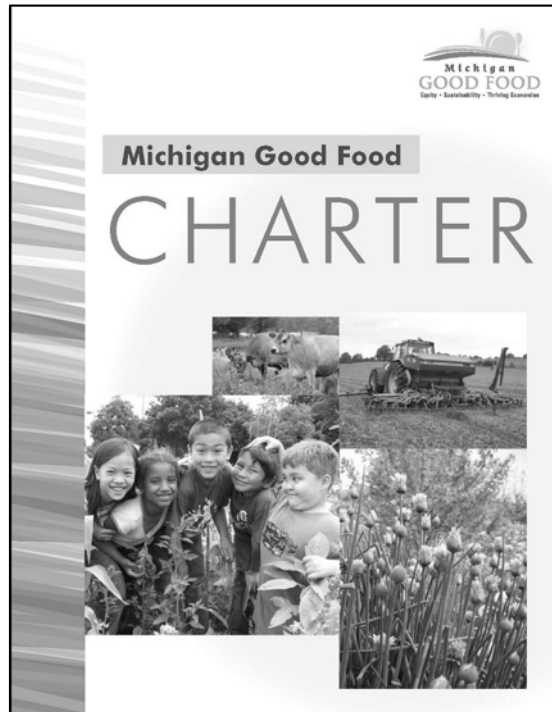
## Content areas

- MI Good Food Charter
- Farm to School - Farm to ECE
- Food procurement - institutions
- Food policy (local councils)
- Healthy food access
- MI Good Food Fund (HFFI)
- Cover crops – soil health
- DEI in food systems
- Food hubs



# MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

## 2010-2020 MI Good Food Charter



- **Six goals**
  - **25 Agenda Priorities**
    - **Healthy/equitable food access for all**
    - **Food as an economic driver**
    - **Market opportunities for farmers**
  
    - **Example priority:  
10 Cents a Meal**
- 10 Cents A Meal for Michigan's Kids & Farms** is a state pilot program that provides schools with up to **10 cents** per **meal** in match funding to purchase and serve **Michigan**-grown fruits, vegetables, and legumes

# 2020 MI Good Food Virtual Summit

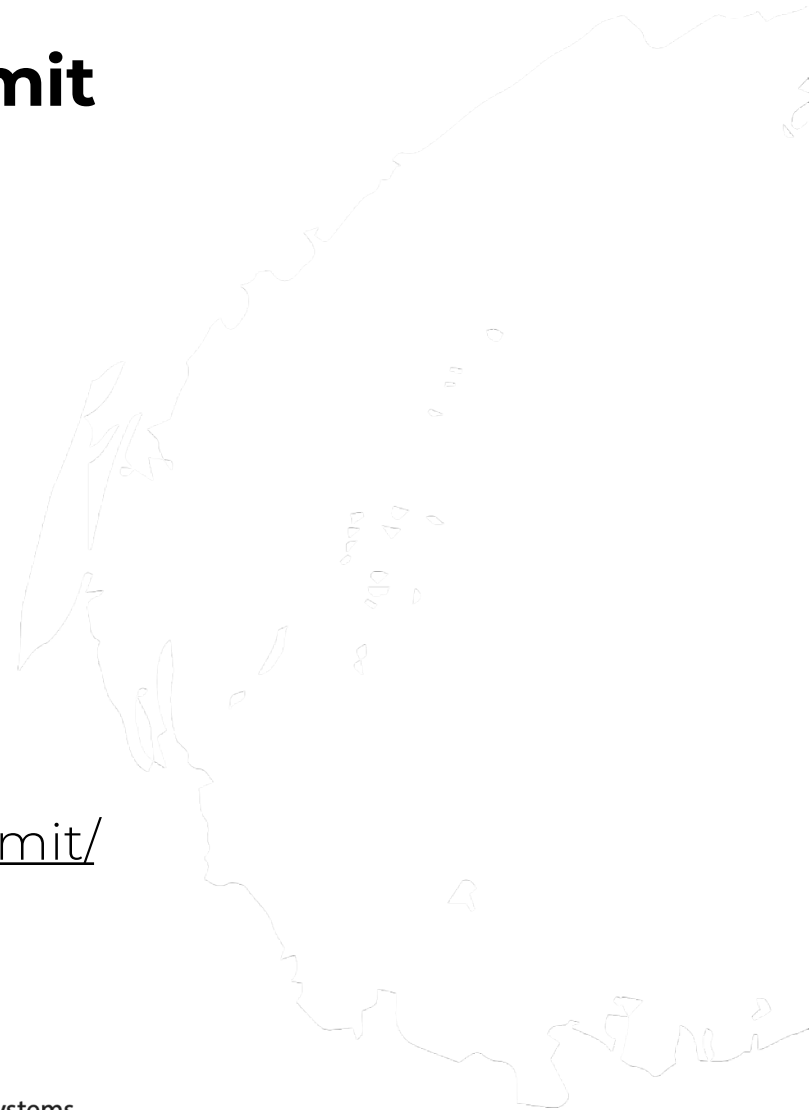
## Come to the 2020 Michigan Good Food Virtual Summit!

- October 12 - Launch Session
  - MDARD Director McDowell provides welcome
- Oct 14 thru Nov 20 - Series\*

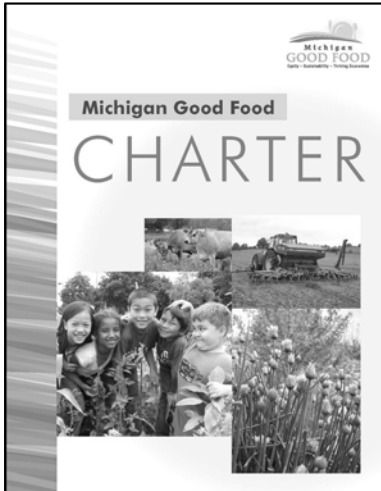
For more information visit:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/michiganfood/summit/>

\* excludes election week



# 2020-21 CHARTER UPDATE PROCESS



## Winter & Spring 2020

Statewide Feedback  
Campaign & Indicator  
Brainstorm Sessions

Statewide  
Feedback

Fall 2021

**New Michigan  
Good Food  
Charter 2.0**

**Fall 2019**

Draft  
Development  
Sessions

**Fall 2020**

Share Charter  
Summary,  
Good Food Virtual  
Summit &  
& Call to Action

2010-2020 Report  
Card of  
accomplishments



# Local Food System workforce development in Michigan

Michigan's 2019 Local Food System workforce assessment

- Food Production
- Farm Inputs
- Manufacturing and Processing
- Wholesale distribution
- Food Retail

Assessment also in Detroit

Career Pathway Mapping

Working with LEO to increase WFD training for migrant workers



# Cultivate Michigan

Helping Michigan Institutions purchase Michigan grown foods

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## 80 participating MI Institutions

- 55 School Districts
- 7 Early Childhood Programs
- 13 Hospitals
- 3 Colleges and universities

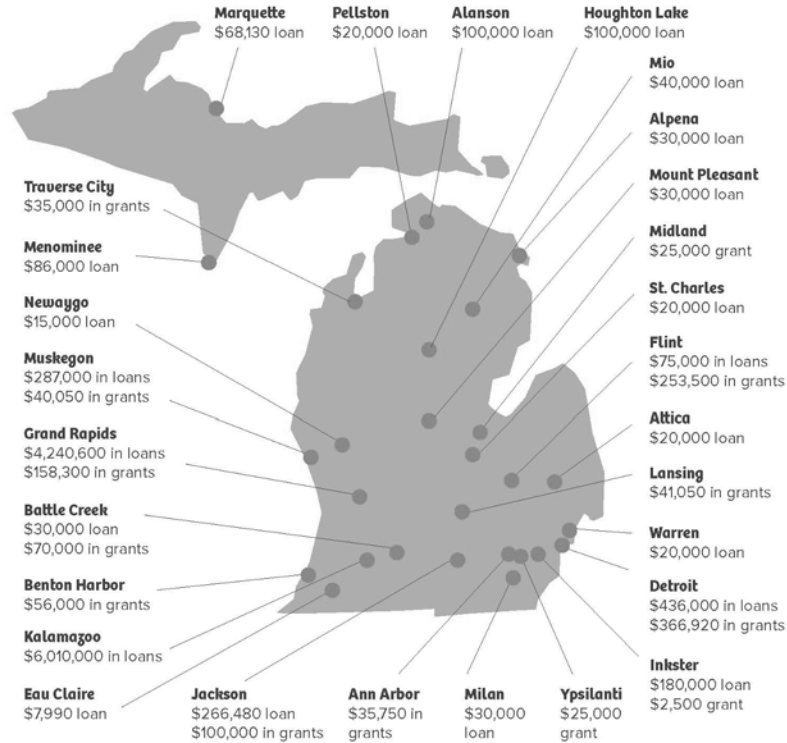


MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Center for Regional Food Systems



## Loans & Grants

June 2015 - December 2019



**\$13+ MILLION INVESTED**  
In good food enterprises from field to fork.

**160+ BUSINESSES SUPPORTED**  
With financing, grants, and business assistance.

Michigan Good Food Fund is \$30 million public-private partnership loan fund that provides financing and business assistance to good food enterprises that benefit underserved communities across Michigan.

MIGoodFoodFund.org  
info@MIGoodFoodFund.org  
@MIGoodFoodFund

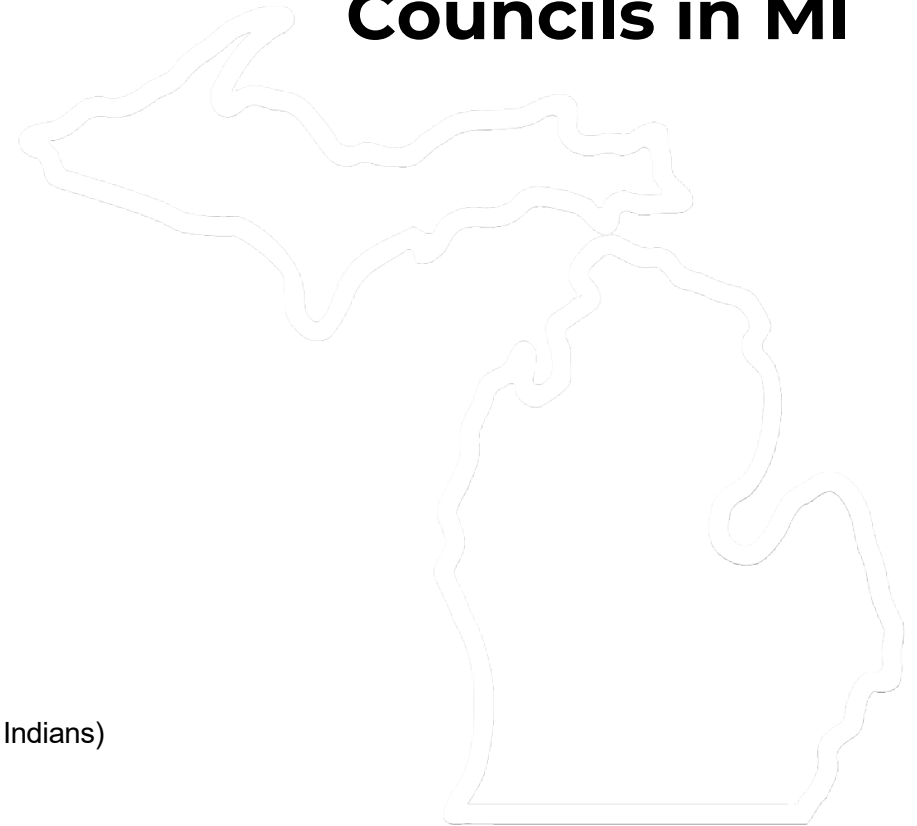


## A Health Food Financing Initiative for Michigan

Capital Impact Partners, Fair Food Network, MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

1. Bay County Food Council
2. Capital Area Food Council
3. Detroit Food Policy Council
4. Food Access Collaboration Team of Saginaw (FACTS)
5. Good Food Kalamazoo
6. Healthy Montcalm.
7. Hunger Free Calhoun
8. Huron Shores Local Food Policy Council
9. Kent County Food Policy Council
10. Lake County Community Food Council
11. Livingston County Hunger Council
12. Local Food Alliance of Northern Michigan
13. Macomb Food Collaborative
14. Midland County Hunger Connections / United Way of Midland County
15. Monroe County Food Advisory Council / MCOP
16. Muskegon County Food System Council
17. Northwest Michigan Food and Farming Network
18. Northwest Food Coalition
19. Oakland County Food Policy Council.
20. Ottawa Food
21. Southwest Michigan Local Food Council.
22. Thumb Food Policy Council
23. Tribal Food Sovereignty Collaborative (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians)
24. Upper Peninsula Food Exchange Policy Committee
25. Washtenaw County Food Policy Council.
26. Western Michigan Food Recovery Council
27. Western U.P. Food Systems Council
28. Wiisinidaa Mnomijim (Let's Eat Good Food) in Bay Mills Indian Community

# Local Food Councils in MI





# MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

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- Rich Pirog – Director - [rspirog@msu.edu](mailto:rspirog@msu.edu)

## Website

- <https://www.canr.msu.edu/foodsystems/>



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL  
DIRECTOR

TO: Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
FROM: Heather Throne, Grants and Commodity Program Manager  
RE: Michigan Apple Proposal for Reapportionment

The Michigan Apple Committee (MAC) requests approval by the Commission for reapportionment to adjust districts to reflect a more accurate representation of its seven member board based on grower numbers and production figures in accordance with the Agricultural Commodity Marketing Act, PA 232 of 1965 as amended (attached). Section 7(4) of PA 232 states "A committee, with the advice and consent of the director and the commission of agriculture, may reapportion either the number of committee members or member districts, or both." MDARD Director Gary McDowell concurs with the June 25, 2020 MAC reapportionment request based upon an agency review and the information given below.

The MAC Board of Directors at their June 25, 2020 special meeting voted unanimously in favor of approving changes to the Michigan Apple Committee, created by the Michigan Apple Advertising and Promotion Program established under Public Act 232 of 1965, to establish four districts comprised of seven apple producers; District 1 having one board member, District 2 having three board members, District 3 having two board members, and District 4 having one board member. Previously, the board had five districts with seven board members, noting District 3 had three board representatives while the other four districts each had one representative. The requested change modifies the number of districts to ensure representation on the board accurately reflects the most recent farm numbers, acreage, and production figures.

Diane Smith will be available at the September Commission meeting for questions. Please contact Heather Throne, Grants and Commodity Manager, Agriculture Development Division, at 517-712-0841, for additional information.

CC: Gary McDowell, Director  
Enc: (2)



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL  
DIRECTOR

**Michigan Apple Advertising and Promotion Program**  
**August 11, 2020**  
**Request for Reapportionment**

The Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development consents to the Michigan Apple Committee's request for district reapportionment to establish four districts comprised of seven apple producers: District 1 having one board member; District 2 having three board members; District 3 having two board members; and District 4 having one board member.

Section 7(4) of the Agricultural Commodity Marketing Act, PA 232 of 1965, states that "A committee, with the advice and consent of the director and the commission of agriculture, may reapportion either the number of committee members or member districts, or both."

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary McDowell".

Date: August 11, 2020

Gary McDowell, Director  
Michigan Department of Agriculture  
and Rural Development



13750 S. Sedona Parkway, Suite 3 Lansing, MI 48906

PHONE: 800.456.2753 • FAX: 517.669.9506

[MichiganApples.com](http://MichiganApples.com)

June 25, 2020

Gary McDowell  
Director  
Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development  
P.O. Box 30017  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. McDowell,

The current makeup of the Michigan Apple Committee's Board of Directors requires representation from five districts. At this time, those districts are not equally represented. This has caused our board to look at the districts to assure that our board is well represented by engaged growers working in today's modern orchards.

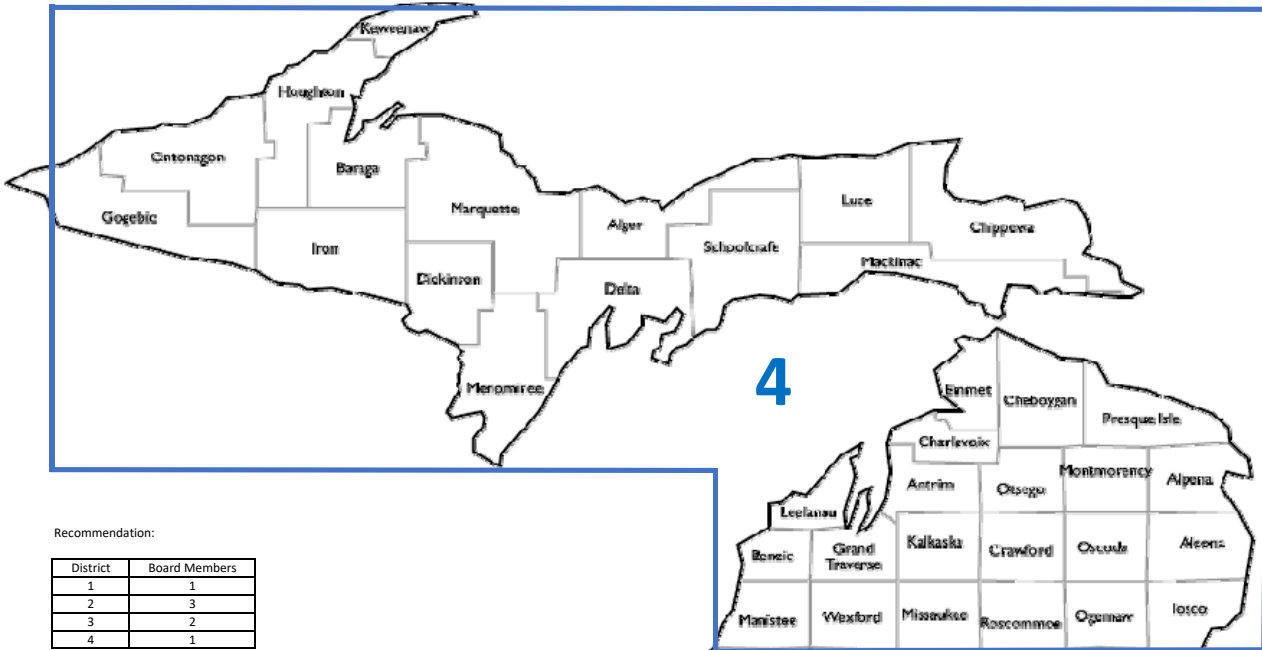
According to the Michigan field office of USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service, acreage of Michigan apple orchards in southwest and southeast has gone down in recent years with an aging grower base and not many plantings of newer high density orchards. Also, 70-75% of our annual production is in the Kent/Ottawa region, with the West Central region north of that area growing exponentially. The West Central growing region planted nearly 3,000,000 trees in 2018 in high to super high density plantings. The varietal mix in that area has been changing fast from process varieties to more fresh varieties in demand with consumers.

On June 25, 2020 our board unanimously voted to propose a reapportionment of districts to four districts, with one of the districts having three board members and another district having two board members (see attached map/data). Our board feels that this would allow for better representation of not only acreage, but production of Michigan apples.

It is my understanding that the Michigan Agriculture Commission has the authority to grant this request. Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

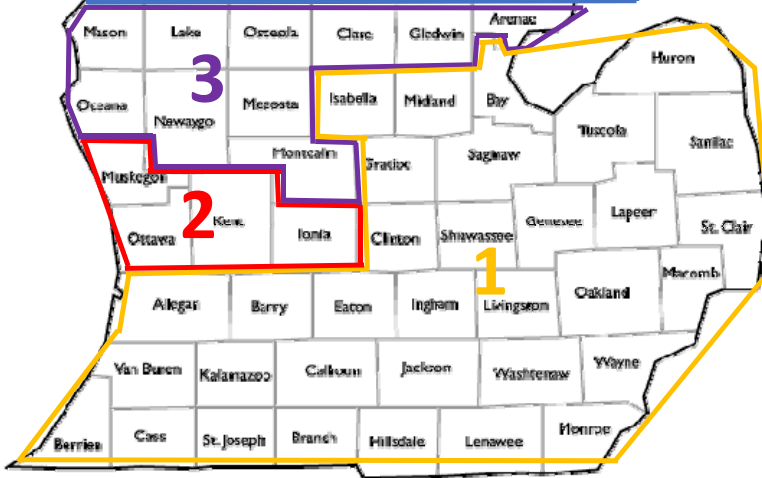
Sincerely,

Diane Smith  
Executive Director



Recommendation:

District	Board Members
1	1
2	3
3	2
4	1



District	Combined/Regions	County	Farms	Total Acreage	Average Acreage	Changes
1	Combined	- Berrien	96	3,100	32	Combines Districts 1 and 2; Aging grower base; older orchards with few high density plantings; region is high in farm markets
		- Cass	23	550	24	
		- Kalamazoo				
	Central	- Van Buren	39	2,250	58	
		- Allegan	21	650	31	
		- Barry				
		- Clinton				
		- Eaton				
	South Central	- Gratiot	21	200	10	
		- Ingham				
		- Isabella				
		- Shiawassee				
	West Thumb	- Branch				
- Calhoun						
- Hillsdale		23	180	8		
Saginaw Bay	- Jackson					
	- St. Joseph					
	- Genesee					
Southeast	- Livingston	16	430	27		
	- Oakland					
	- Bay					
East Thumb	- Huron					
	- Midland	16	85	5		
	- Saginaw					
Totals	- Tuscola					
	- Lenawee					
	- Monroe	46	650	14		
	- Washtenaw					
Totals	- Wayne					
	- Lapeer					
	- Macomb	28	515	18		
	- Sanillac					
2	- St. Clair					
	- Muskegon	9	2,700	300	Additions: Montcalm moved from District 2 Moving: Isabella, Midland, and Bay moved to District 1 70-75% of apples grown in the state	
	- Ottawa	34	3,400	100		
	- Kent	76	8,550	113		
- Ionia	8	350	44			
3	- Totals	127	15,000	139		
	Combined	- Arenac	-	-	-	Additions: Montcalm moved from District 2 Moving: Isabella, Midland, and Bay moved to District 1 More high/super high density plantings going in; new varieties; less process and more valuable fresh
		- Clare	-	-	-	
		- Gladwin	-	-	-	
		- Lake	-	-	-	
		- Mason	20	1,500	75	
		- Mecosta				
		- Montcalm	9	500	56	
- Newaygo		17	1,600	94		
Totals	- Oceana	57	3,600	63		
	- Osceola	-	-	-		
	- Totals	103	7,200	72		
4	North	- Benzie	13	650	50	No changes needed
		- Grand Trav.	40	700	18	
		- Leelanau	48	950	20	
		- Manistee	15	520	35	
	Combined	- U.P.				
		- Alcona				
		- Alpena				
		- Crawford				
		- Iosco				
		- Kalkaska				
		- Missaukee	61	190	3	
		- Montmorency				
		- Ogemaw				
- Oscoda						
Totals	- Otsego					
	- Presque Isle					
	- Roscommon					
Totals	- Wexford					
	- Antrim					
	- Charlevoix	39	680	17		
	- Cheboygan					
Totals	- Emmett					
	- Totals	216	3,690	17		

# **Minutes of the Michigan Apple Committee June 25, 2020 Special Meeting**

<b>Present:</b>	Mark Youngquist, Chair Kim Kropf Jeremy Shank	Mike Dietrich, Vice Chair Bob Gregory
<b>Absent:</b>	Caleb Coulter	Damon Gleib
<b>Guests:</b>	Heather Throne, MDARD	Amy Irish-Brown, MSU Extension
<b>Staff:</b>	Diane Smith	Gretchen Mensing

Chair Mark Youngquist called the special meeting to order on Zoom (Due to the Executive Order 2020-75 from Governor Whitmer allowing boards to meet electronically until June 30, 2020) at 9:07 a.m.

### **Research Funding Update**

Diane shared a research proposal from Julianna Wilson for her apple replant project. She was mistakenly directed to submit it to the Michigan Tree Fruit Commission instead of the Michigan Apple Committee. Diane discovered this at the MTFC meeting last week and asked her to submit. She then shared it with the Michigan Apple Research Subcommittee, who reviewed and unanimously recommended for funding.

Upon review, Mike Dietrich made a motion to approve this project for research funding. Bob Gregory seconded. **Motion passed.**

### **Redistricting Update and Discussion**

At the June 4 MAC meeting, Diane brought to the table some potential solutions to the challenge of finding board members to represent the southeast Michigan region. She presented a couple of options for redistricting. Diane did a great deal of research and worked with Mark Youngquist and Mike Dietrich to create a proposed plan for redistricting, which was shared with the board.

Mark Youngquist and Mike Dietrich shared their views that it is important to have all sectors of the industry represented on the board, as well as appropriate representation based on regions where production is heaviest. They also felt it was important to create a plan that was sustainable into the future, taking into account where in the state the industry is growing, and where it is declining. They want any changes made to be long lasting and allow for engaged board members.

After some discussion took place, Kim Kropf made a motion to approve the proposed changes. Jeremy Shank seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Public Comment**

No public comments were offered at this time.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Gregory and seconded by Jeremy Shank. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.





# FARMS UNDER THREAT: THE STATE OF THE STATES Executive Summary

*Farms Under Threat: The State of the States* paints a striking picture of America’s agricultural landscape—and the threats facing working farms and ranches in every state.

Between 2001 and 2016, 11 million acres of farmland and rangeland were converted to urban and highly developed land use (4.1 million acres) or low-density residential land use (nearly 7 million acres). That’s equal to all the U.S. farmland devoted to fruit, nut, and vegetable production in 2017—or 2,000 acres a day paved over, built up, and converted to uses that threaten the future of agriculture.

This assault on our working farms and ranches occurred despite the Great Recession, plummeting housing starts, and declining population growth. While every state has taken steps to protect their agricultural land base, they all could—and must—do more.

For 40 years, American Farmland Trust (AFT) has used high-quality research to demonstrate the need to protect farmland and rangeland—and to provide solutions. From our game-changing *Farming on the Edge* reports to our seminal book, *Saving American Farmland: What Works*, we have informed and inspired farmers and ranchers, legislators and planners, land trusts and conservationists across the United States.

In 2016, AFT launched the *Farms Under Threat* initiative to update our research for the 21st century. Working in partnership with Conservation Science Partners (CSP), we are harnessing the latest technological advancements to accurately document the extent, diversity, location, and quality of agricultural land in the continental United States—as well as the threats to this land from expanding commercial, industrial, and residential development. At the same time, we are conducting extensive policy research to assess states’ policy solutions to respond to the threats.



Our first report, *Farms Under Threat: The State of America’s Farmland*, was released in May 2018. It provided the most scientific, detailed, and up-to-date spatial analysis of agricultural lands and development patterns available for the continental United States. AFT has now dug deeper with *The State of the States*. Our new spatial analyses incorporate updated datasets and refined methods, allowing us to map agricultural land at the state, county, and even sub-county levels. At the same time, we conducted an extensive analysis of six state policy responses to the forces that lead to agricultural land conversion: development pressure, weakened farm viability, and the challenges of transferring land to a new generation. Linking our spatial findings to policy solutions will help advocates and decision-makers plan for and protect their valued agricultural resources for future generations.



PHOTO: Rebecca Drobis

## Every State Converted High-Quality Farmland

Our findings provide unprecedented insights into the status and fate of American farmland. From 2001 to 2016, 11 million acres of agricultural land were paved over, fragmented, or converted to uses that jeopardize agriculture, curtailing sustainable food production, economic opportunities, and the environmental benefits afforded by well-managed farmland and ranchland.

Our pioneering analysis of low-density residential (LDR) land use is the first nationwide attempt to spatially identify the impacts of large-lot housing development on the agricultural land base. Filling a critical knowledge gap left by previous spatial assessments, it finds that LDR paves the way to urban and highly developed (UHD) land use: between 2001 and 2016, agricultural land in LDR areas was 23 times more likely to be urbanized than other agricultural land. Whereas UHD development is closely tied to population growth, LDR expansion is not: only five out of the top 12 states for LDR are in the top 12 for population growth, thus likely due to weak land use regulations.

Compounding these impacts, 4.4 million acres of Nationally Significant land were converted to UHD and LDR land uses—an area nearly the size of New Jersey. AFT developed the Nationally Significant farmland designation to identify the most productive, versatile, and resilient (PVR) land

for sustainable food and crop production. The United States is home to 10 percent of the planet’s arable soils—the most of any country on Earth. Yet even here, in what appears to be a vast agricultural landscape, only 18 percent of the continental U.S. is Nationally Significant land. As we face growing demand for high-quality food and environmental protection along with increasingly complex challenges from epidemics, extreme weather, and market disruptions, it is especially important to protect the land best suited to intensive food and crop production, including fruits, nuts, vegetables, and staple grains.

## How States Have Responded to Threats to Their Agricultural Land Base

AFT created an Agricultural Land Protection Scorecard to show how states have—or have not—responded to the threats of agricultural land conversion. We assessed six policy tools commonly used to protect farmland, support agricultural viability, and provide access to land:

- Purchase of agricultural conservation easements (PACE) programs (aka Purchase of Development Rights) that permanently protect working farmland and ranchland,
- Land use planning policies that manage growth and stabilize the land base,
- Property tax relief for agricultural land that improves farm and ranch profitability,
- Agricultural district programs that encourage landowners to form areas to protect farmland,

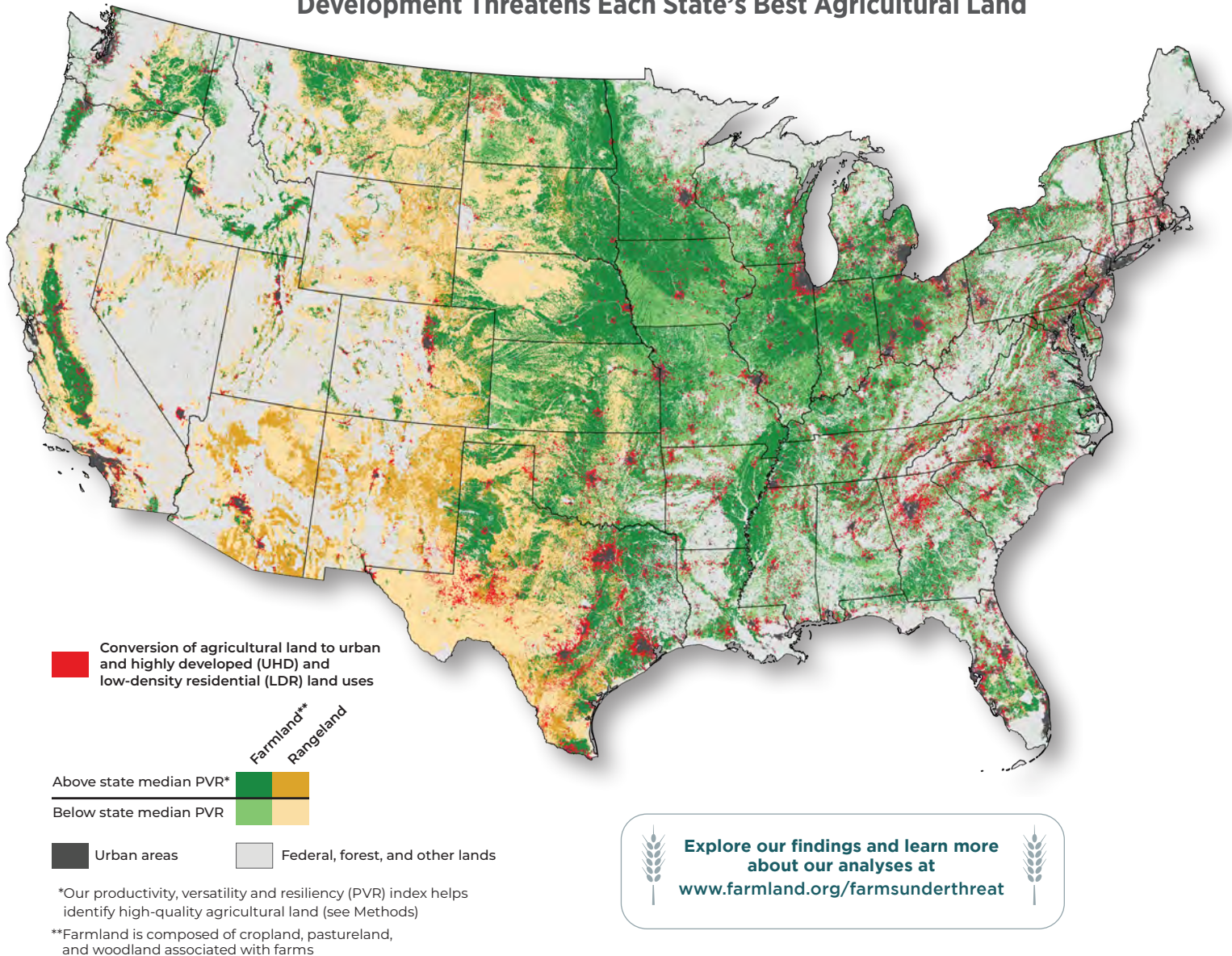
- Farm Link programs that connect land seekers with landowners who want their land to stay in agriculture, and
- State leasing programs that make state-owned land available to farmers and ranchers.

The results of the Scorecard show that every state has taken steps to retain land for agriculture, but all could do more. All 50 have enacted property tax relief and laws enabling local governments to plan and adopt land use policies to offset development pressure on agricultural land. Nearly every state has a program to lease state-owned land for farming and ranching and more than half have PACE programs. Some have gone further with innovative programs to address agricultural viability and facilitate land transfer. Yet only New Jersey and Virginia have adopted the full suite of the programs we examined. And while Oregon stood out for its high score in planning, no state earned a perfect score for a single policy, much less a full suite of policies.

We found coordination is key—especially between state and local governments. The leading states for high-policy response linked multiple programs and created frameworks to harness local efforts. They enacted complementary efforts, using PACE programs to permanently save a supply of land for future generations and land use planning to curb conversion. But because it often is not visible, states have not yet recognized or responded to the impacts of LDR on agriculture. Addressing the threat and potential opportunities of LDR is a critical challenge for the coming decades.

# Visualizing the Threats: Findings from the Spatial Analyses

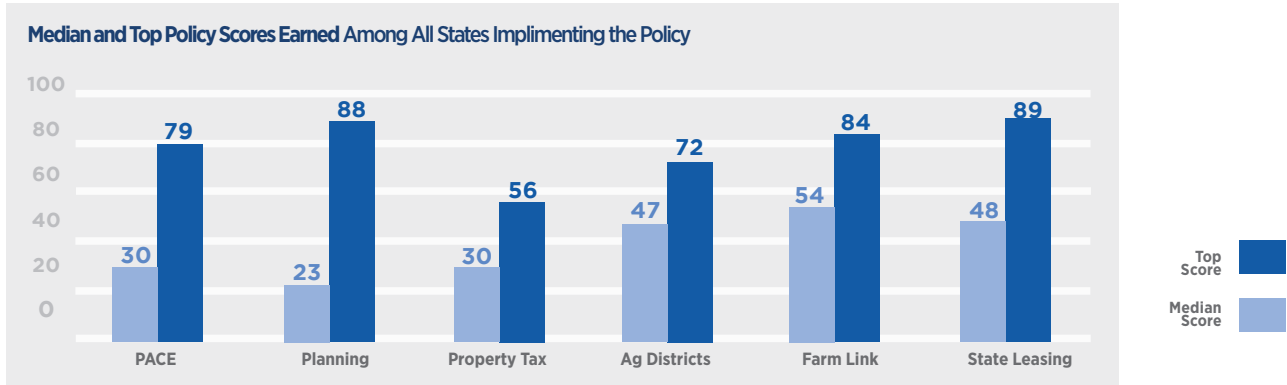
## Development Threatens Each State's Best Agricultural Land



Our analysis is designed to anticipate future challenges and opportunities. As the population grows, development spreads, demand for healthy food increases, and the changing climate makes farming and ranching riskier, it will be vital to secure a critical mass of productive, versatile, and resilient (PVR) land. Toward these ends, states need to identify the agricultural land resources that are most important for their own food systems and landscapes.

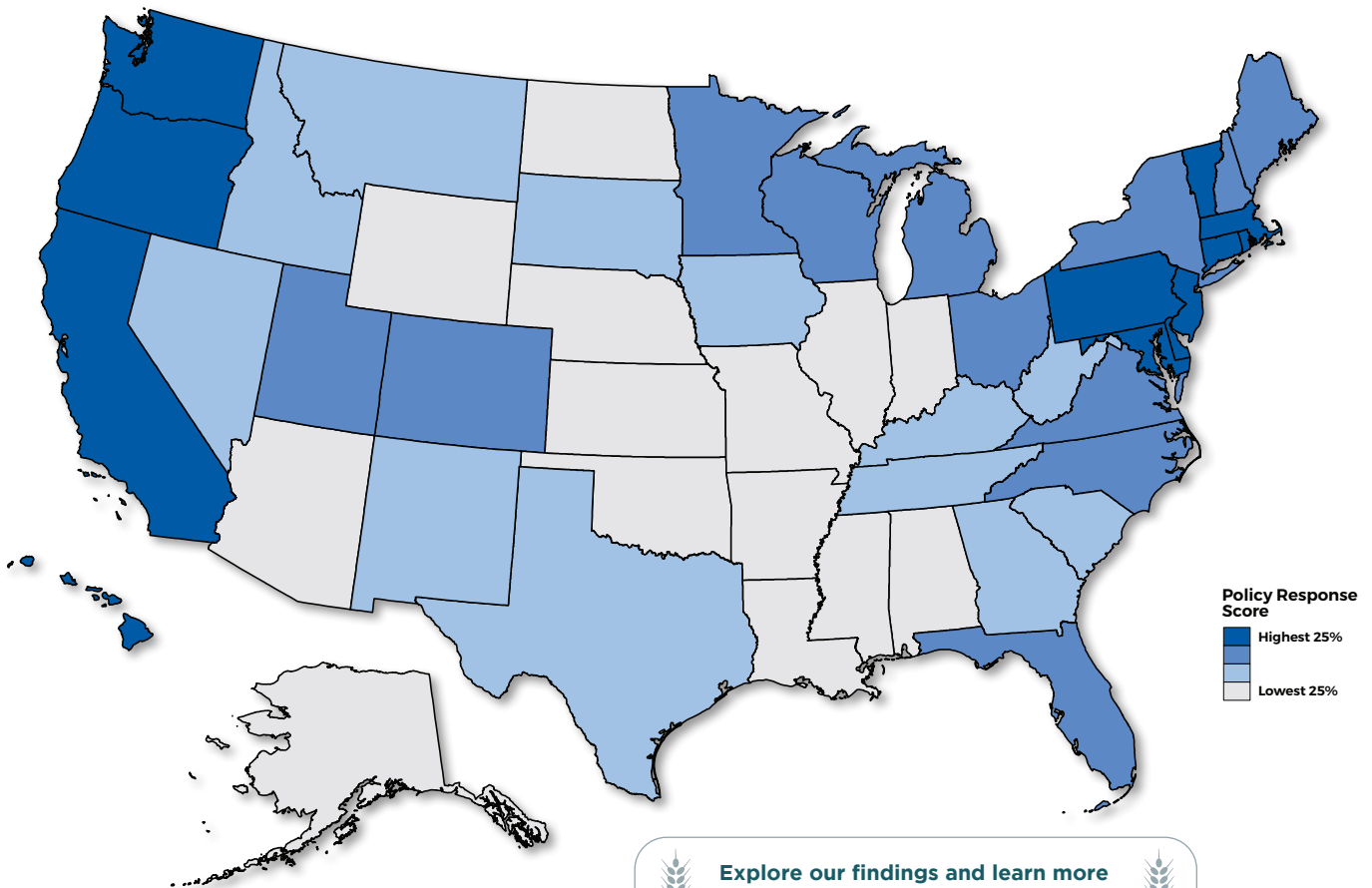
This map shows where non-federal farmland and rangeland were converted to UHD and LDR land uses from 2001-2016. Farmland includes cropland, pastureland, and woodland associated with farms. Farmland and rangeland with PVR values above the state median are shown in dark green and dark yellow, respectively. Lands with PVR values below the state median are shown in lighter shades. Existing urban areas in 2001 are shown in dark gray and federal, forest, and other lands are shown in light gray. Conversion to UHD or LDR has occurred in all areas shown in red, but this does not indicate that every acre in those areas has been converted.

# Assessing the Response: Results from the Policy Scorecard



The Agricultural Land Protection (ALP) Scorecard evaluated six policies and programs that protect agricultural land from development, promote farm viability, and facilitate the transfer of agricultural land. AFT conducted research between 2016 and 2019 and used quantitative and qualitative factors to compare approaches that are tied to the land in all 50 states. Results for each policy are summarized in policy scoresheets; scores from the scoresheets are combined into Policy Response Scores in the ALP Scorecard. This map shows state Policy Response Scores by quartile.

## State Policy Responses to the Threat of Conversion



Explore our findings and learn more about our analyses at [www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat](http://www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat)



**Farms Under Threat** is American Farmland Trust's multi-year initiative to document the status of and threats to U.S. farm and ranch land and to identify policy solutions to ensure the protection and conservation of America's diverse agricultural landscape. For more information about the initiative, visit AFT's website: [www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org). For a copy of the full report and information on methods and analyses, contact AFT's Farmland Information Center: [www.farmlandinfo.org](http://www.farmlandinfo.org) or (800) 370-4879.

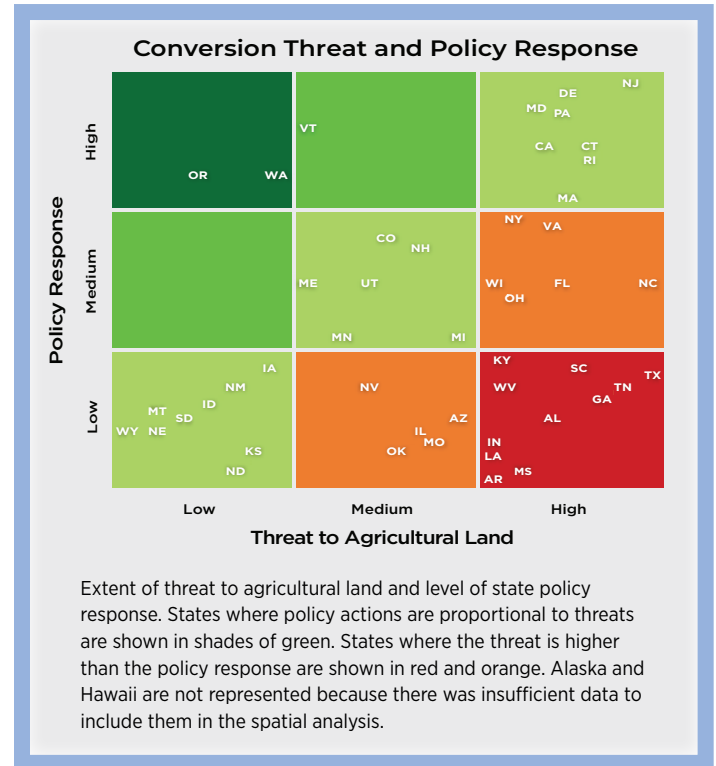
## Call to Action

Our research shows that people act when changes to their landscape are visible. In this century, land use changes have been hard to see. As a result, compared to the 1980s and 1990s, states have done little to secure their agricultural land base. This is shortsighted.

While development trends always have peaks and valleys, and real estate bubbles always burst, the force and extent of the last decade's decline were an anomaly—far below the rates from recessions dating back to the 1960s. Yet states still converted 11 million acres of agricultural land. According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, this is slightly more than all the land used to grow fruits, nuts, and vegetables across the U.S.

Even in uncertain economic times, it is urgent that states—especially states with high rates of conversion—step up to save their farmland and ranchland.

Of most concern are the high-threat states that have taken very little policy action. Led by Texas, most are in the South, but Indiana and West Virginia also fell into this category. States with a high threat and a reciprocally high policy response have worked for decades to address farmland loss (see figure at right). But even in cases of relatively wide policy adoption, they need to do more, better, faster—especially to address the spread of LDR.



## What States Can Do

**There is no silver bullet. Since conversion is driven by several interrelated factors, states need to use multiple policy approaches to protect their vital agricultural resources. Choices will depend on the nature and extent of the threat, its underlying causes, each state's policy framework, and public support. What follows is a list of five high-level actions states can take to secure their agricultural land base.**

### Action 1: Analyze and Map Agricultural Land Trends and Conditions

Effective strategies are based on solid data. Toward that end, states should track agricultural land use trends and conditions, map their agricultural land, and conduct both state and local policy audits.

### Action 2: Strengthen and/or Adopt a Suite of Coordinated Policies to Protect Farmland

States should address these trends and conditions with clear goals and a suite of coordinated policies. They can start by looking for opportunities within existing programs. While not always politically feasible, programs with regulatory teeth are more effective than those that rely on incentives alone. But if a regulatory approach is not achievable, states must offer strong enough incentives to have meaningful results.

### Action 3: Support Farm Viability and Access to Land for a New Generation of Farmers and Ranchers

Competition for land drives up land values and prices, and a tight supply makes it hard for beginners and historically disadvantaged producers to enter the field. When farms and ranches consolidate or go out of business, it becomes harder for the remaining operations to thrive. The vital infrastructure that supports them also goes out of business or consolidates, making it more expensive and time consuming to obtain needed goods and services and to process, market, and distribute farm products. States need policies to support agricultural viability and to facilitate the transfer of land to a new, more diverse generation of farmers and ranchers.

### Action 4: Plan for Agriculture, Not Just Around It

“A failure to plan is a plan to fail.” State and local governments plan for many things—from transportation and housing to health, safety, and economic wellbeing. Few plan for agriculture. This needs to change. Planning for agriculture establishes a public policy framework to support agricultural economic development as well as to retain and protect farmland for current and future generations. It can occur at state, regional, or local levels and result in a stand-alone plan or be included as part of a comprehensive or other type of plan, including sustainability and emergency management plans.

### Action 5: Save the Best, but Don't Forget the Rest

America's agricultural landscape is extensive and diverse. Some is ideally suited to producing food, feed, and other crops; some is better suited to grazing livestock. All of it is important to state and local economies and to our food system. Nevertheless, states should make a special effort to protect their Nationally Significant land, which is critical for long-term food security and environmental quality. States can use the interactive maps available at [www.farm-land.org/farmsunderthreat](http://www.farm-land.org/farmsunderthreat) to identify where their highest threats converge with their best quality agricultural lands. Working with local government partners, they can help ensure that local land use policies address the quality as well the quantity of their agricultural resources.

## What the Federal Government Can Do

Federal policies and programs play a major role in directing development. Yet while we have strong protections in place for wetlands, endangered species, and other natural resources, protecting agricultural land has largely been left to state and local governments. It is time for stronger and more coordinated federal action. What follows are five actions the federal government can take to stop the loss of the nation's valuable agricultural resources.

### Action 1: Double Funding for ACEP

The Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) program is the federal government's only program focused specifically on agricultural land protection. Providing matching funds to qualified entities to purchase agricultural conservation easements, ALE receives funding as part of the broader Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). At just \$450 million of annual funding, ACEP currently meets only a small fraction of its demand. Doubling funding for this popular program would increase ALE's capacity to protect farmland and ranchland.

### Action 2: Strengthen the Farmland Protection Policy Act to Stop Agricultural Land Loss

Congress should strengthen the FPPA by adding mitigation requirements and penalties for conversion by federally funded projects and should provide higher levels of protection for high-quality agricultural land. Further, USDA should devote more resources to NRCS to conduct the National Resources Inventory to deliver reliable state and county-level estimates and spatial data on the status, condition, and trends of land and related resources.

### Action 3: Develop Federal Policies that Facilitate Farm Transfer to a New Generation

Congress and USDA must step up efforts to support succession planning, land transfer, and access to land. Actions include tax policy changes such as a capital gains exclusion to incentivize the sale of land to a new generation; a beginning farmer tax credit; an increase of the cap on the estate tax's 2032A Special Use Valuation; and expansion of the Conservation Reserve Program-Transition Incentives Program. To inform these policies, NASS should update the 2014 Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) survey.

### Action 4: Increase Support for Agricultural Viability

A greater share of USDA funding is needed for programs and research to help producers add value to their products, develop new markets, diversify their operations, and otherwise improve economic viability. Programs like the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program and Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program should be expanded, and greater support should be provided for Farm Service Agency beginning farmer loan programs. Congress also should consider enacting a "Debt for Working Lands" program. Modeled on FSA's Conservation Contract Program, it could offer lowered or restructured debt on FSA loans in exchange for a permanent agricultural easement. Finally, funding should be increased for the Agricultural Research Service and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

### Action 5: Provide Federal Funding to Plan for Agriculture

The federal government can do more to incentivize regional, state, and local planning to support agriculture, from preventing agricultural land loss and improving the siting of agricultural infrastructure to improving economic opportunities for farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses. This could be done through federal block grant funding to state and local governments to develop comprehensive plans for agriculture or to provide planning expertise and technical assistance. Funding also should be expanded for the Local Foods, Local Places (LFLP) program to provide technical assistance to municipalities to reinvest in neighborhoods as they develop local food systems.

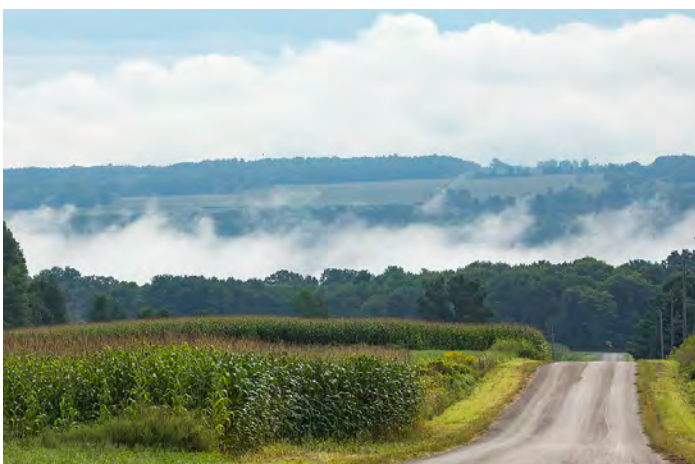


PHOTO: Rebecca Dobbs

## We Must Act Now!

American farmland is threatened by development, consolidation and weakening farm viability, and by barriers to transferring land to a new generation of farmers and ranchers. At the same time, global demands on food production are colliding with the environmental impacts of eroding soils, declining aquifers, and extreme weather events. We need farmers and ranchers to grow food and provide for other human needs, and we need them to provide essential environmental services—from clean drinking water and wildlife habitat to carbon sequestration to cool the planet.

Especially in tandem with smart growth strategies, protecting agricultural land and adopting regenerative farming practices are powerful solutions to climate change. With the world population projected to reach 10 billion by 2050, and climate change posing an existential threat, we must act now to secure the agricultural land base for future generations.

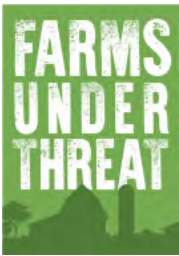
**American Farmland Trust (AFT) works to save the land that sustains us by protecting farmland, promoting sound farming practices, and keeping farmers on the land.**

For more information about our findings and analyses, contact AFT's Farmland Information Center staff at (800) 370-4879, [www.farmlandinfo.org](http://www.farmlandinfo.org)

For more information about AFT visit us at: [www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org)

  
American Farmland Trust  
SAVING THE LAND THAT SUSTAINS US

To explore our interactive maps, policy scorecard, and background data visit: [www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat](http://www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat)

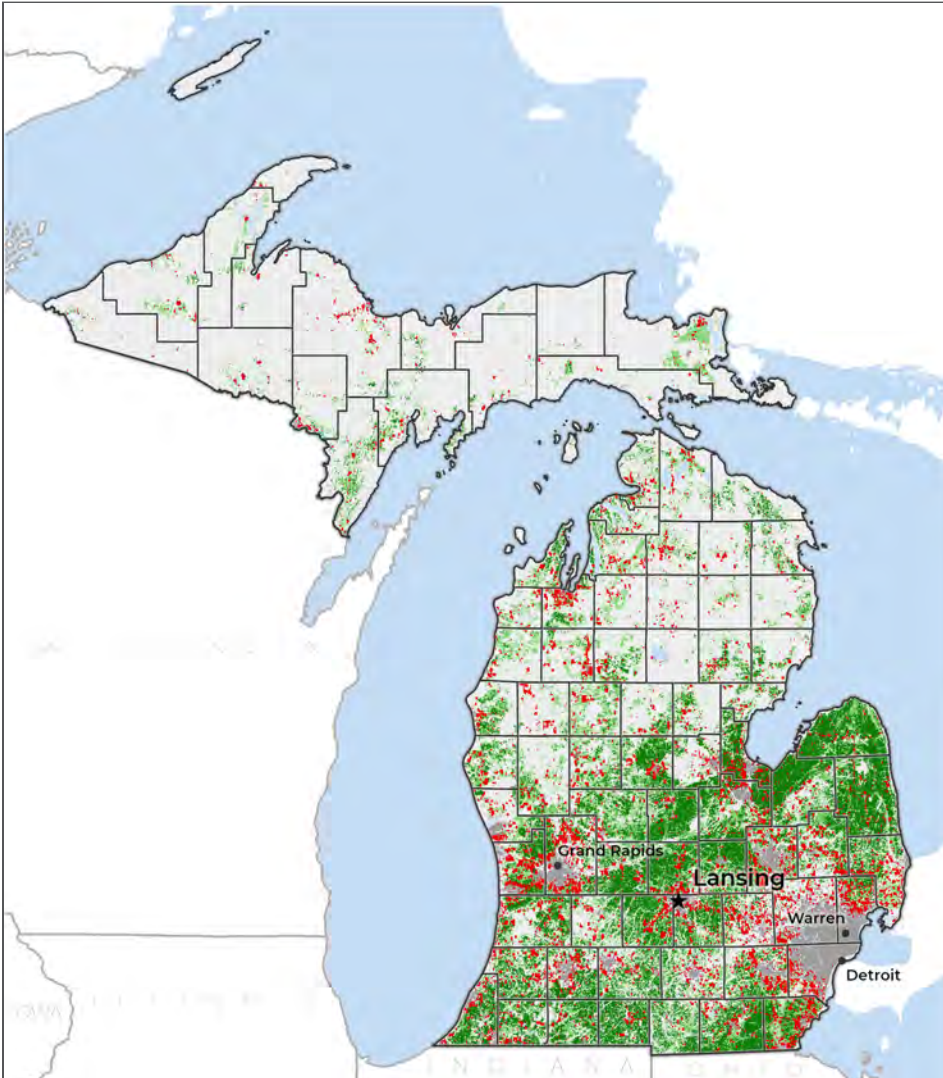


# THE STATE OF THE STATES Agricultural Land Conversion Highlight Summary

# Michigan

**Farms Under Threat: The State of the States** mapped agricultural land conversion and evaluated state policy responses. The spatial analysis identified the extent, diversity, and quality of each state’s agricultural land—and where this land has been converted to both urban and highly developed (UHD) and low-density residential (LDR) land uses.

## AGRICULTURAL LAND CONVERSION 2001-2016



Conversion of non-federal farmland to UHD and LDR land uses from 2001-2016. The threat to working farms and ranches is pervasive, often claiming the most productive, versatile, and resilient lands.

### RELATIVE CONVERSION THREAT

# MEDIUM

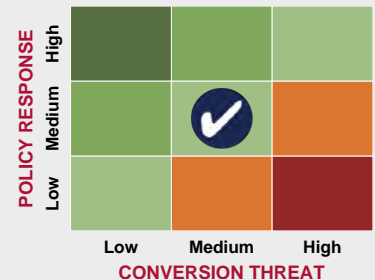
Michigan scored in the middle of all states for the conversion of agricultural land to urban and highly developed (UHD) and low-density residential (LDR) uses.

### RELATIVE POLICY RESPONSE

# MEDIUM

Michigan scored in the middle of all states for policies and programs that protect agricultural land from development, promote farm viability, and facilitate the transfer of agricultural land.

### HOW IS THIS STATE DOING?



Michigan is in a green box because its policy response is aligned with its conversion threat, relative to other states. Learn more at [www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat](http://www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat)

Conversion of agricultural land to UHD and LDR land uses

**Farmland\*** that is:  
Above state median PVR\*\*

Urban areas  
Federal, forest, and other lands

\*Farmland is composed of cropland, pastureland, and woodland associated with farms.

\*\* Our productivity, versatility, and resiliency (PVR) index helps identify high-quality agricultural land (see page 2).

## DEVELOPMENT THREATENS MICHIGAN'S AGRICULTURAL LAND

From 2001-2016, 240,100 acres of agricultural land were developed or compromised.

Michigan's farmland and ranchland was converted to:

- **Urban and highly developed (UHD)** land use, including commercial, industrial, and moderate-to-high-density residential areas.
- **Low-density residential (LDR)** land use, where scattered large lot development fragments the agricultural land base and limits production, marketing, and management options for the working farms and ranches that remain.

### LDR PAVES THE WAY FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

Agricultural land in LDR areas in 2001 was

**11 TIMES MORE LIKELY**

to be converted to UHD by 2016, compared to other agricultural land.

44,600 acres

**19%**

of conversion was to UHD

195,500 acres

**81%**

of conversion was to LDR

### CONVERSION AFFECTED ALL TYPES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND



**CROPLAND:** 73,600 acres  
**PASTURELAND:** 41,200 acres  
**WOODLAND:** 125,200 acres

### MICHIGAN'S BEST AGRICULTURAL LAND IS UNDER THREAT

We used our unique **PVR index**, which quantifies the productivity, versatility, and resiliency of agricultural land, to identify:

1. **Michigan's best land**, which has PVR values above the state median, and
2. **Nationally Significant land**, which is the country's best land for long-term production of food and other crops. **66%** of Michigan's agricultural land, or **7,785,900 acres**, falls in this category.\*

Protecting high-PVR land is critical for the long-term sustainability of agriculture, yet from 2001-2016:

- ▶ **84,700 acres** of Michigan's best land were converted to UHD and LDR uses.
- ▶ **124,200 acres** of Michigan's Nationally Significant land were converted.

\*These two categories overlap and the same land may be included in both.

## What's at stake?

- ▶ **11,740,400 acres of agricultural land remain<sup>1</sup>**



**CROPLAND:** 7,894,200 acres  
**PASTURELAND:** 2,138,300 acres  
**WOODLAND:** 1,707,900 acres

- ▶ **\$8.2 billion earned from cash receipts in 2017<sup>2</sup>**

- \$326.5 million from local food<sup>3</sup>
- \$2.7 billion from agricultural exports<sup>4</sup>

- ▶ **240,100 acres were converted—enough land to generate \$168 million in annual revenue<sup>2</sup>**

- ▶ **Michigan's top 3 agricultural products:<sup>2</sup>**

- Milk and Dairy \$1.8 billion
- Corn \$1.3 billion
- Soybeans \$998.6 million

- ▶ **80,400 producers and 97,100 farm laborers on 47,600 farms<sup>2</sup>**

- ▶ **4 times as many producers over 65 as under 35 years old<sup>2</sup>**

1. Farms Under Threat 2016

2. National Agricultural Statistics Service 2017

3. Sold directly to consumer and intermediate outlets, NASS 2017

4. Economic Research Service 2017

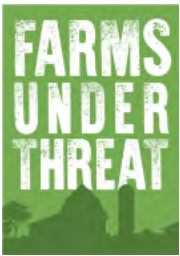


**Farms Under Threat** is American Farmland Trust's multi-year initiative to document the status of and threats to U.S. farmland and ranchland and to identify policy solutions to ensure the protection and conservation of America's diverse agricultural landscape. For more information about AFT, visit [www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org). If you have any questions about the analysis methods or would like access to data, please contact AFT's Farmland Information Center: [www.farmlandinfo.org](http://www.farmlandinfo.org) or (800) 370-4879.



Explore our interactive maps at [www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat](http://www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat)



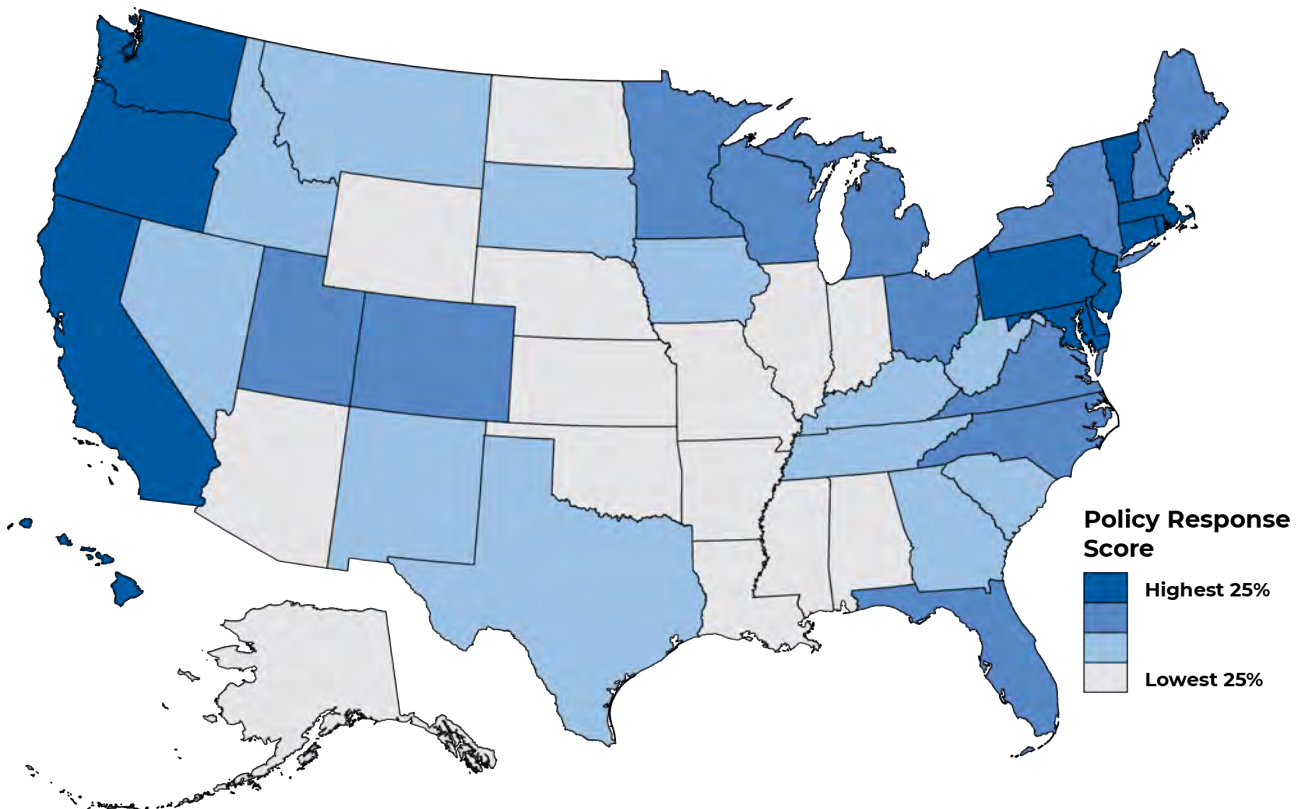


THE STATE OF THE STATES  
Agricultural Land Protection Scorecard Highlight Summary

# Michigan

**Farms Under Threat: The State of the States** mapped agricultural land conversion and evaluated state policy responses. The Agricultural Land Protection (ALP) Scorecard evaluated six policies and programs that protect agricultural land from development, promote farm viability, and facilitate the transfer of agricultural land. American Farmland Trust (AFT) conducted research between 2016 and 2019 and used quantitative and qualitative factors to compare approaches that are tied to the land in all 50 states. Results for each policy are summarized in *policy scoresheets*; scores from the scoresheets are combined into Policy Response Scores in the *ALP Scorecard*. The map shows state Policy Response Scores by quartile.

### EXTENT OF STATE POLICY RESPONSES TO THE THREAT OF CONVERSION



RELATIVE CONVERSION THREAT

## MEDIUM

Michigan scored in the middle of all states for the conversion of agricultural land to urban and highly developed (UHD) and low-density residential (LDR) uses.

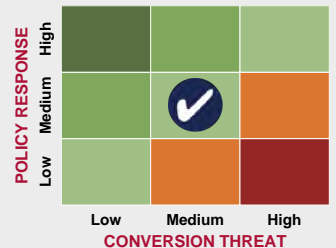
RELATIVE POLICY RESPONSE

## MEDIUM

Michigan scored in the middle of all states for policies and programs that address the threat of conversion.

HOW IS THIS STATE DOING?

Michigan is in a green box because its policy response is aligned with its conversion threat, relative to other states. Learn more at [www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat](http://www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat)

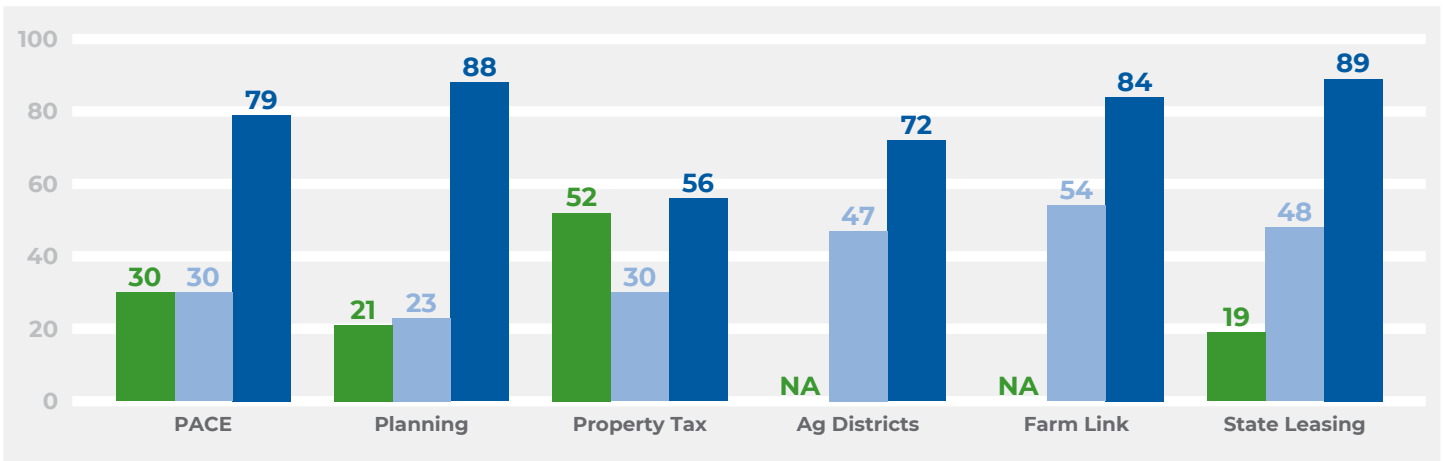


## HOW MICHIGAN STACKS UP

Michigan Score 

Median Score 

Top Score 



Policy scoresheet scores: Final policy scores compared to the median and the highest scores achieved by all states that have implemented each policy. Even among high-response states, no state received a perfect score for any individual policy; every state has the potential to do more.

## ABOUT THE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

### PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Purchase of agricultural conservation easement (PACE) programs permanently protect farmland and rangeland from non-farm development. They compensate landowners who voluntarily place an agricultural conservation easement on their property. Michigan's Department of Agriculture and Rural Development administers the Agricultural Preservation Fund, which awards grants to qualified local governments for easement purchases.

### LAND-USE PLANNING

Land-use planning policies manage growth and stabilize the land base. Most states delegate planning authority to local governments, but some play a more active role, requiring localities to develop comprehensive plans, identify agricultural resources, and adopt policies to protect them. Michigan requires local governments to adopt a comprehensive plan if a planning commission is formed.

### PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Property tax relief (PTR) programs reduce property taxes paid on agricultural land. The most common approach is use-value assessment (UVA), which assesses farmland and rangeland at its current use value. Michigan's P.A. 116 provides property tax relief in the form of a state income tax credit. This program uses covenants to restrict enrolled lands to agricultural use.

### AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS

Agricultural district programs encourage landowners to form special areas to support agriculture. Farmers receive protections and incentives including: limits on annexation, limits on eminent domain, protection from the siting of public facilities and infrastructure, and tax incentives. Less common is requiring district enrollment to participate in state-administered PACE programs.

### FARM LINK

Farm Link programs connect land seekers with landowners who want their land to stay in agriculture. Administered by public or private entities, they offer a range of services and resources, from online real estate postings to technical assistance, trainings, and educational resources. AFT only included publicly supported programs.

### STATE LEASING

State leasing programs make state-owned land available to farmers and ranchers for agriculture. Sometimes their primary purpose is to make land available for agriculture. More often, agricultural use is secondary to generating income for a public purpose or protecting wildlife habitat. As of 2019, Michigan's Department of Natural Resources leases approximately 5,000 acres.

## MICHIGAN: KEY FACTS

# \$0.15

AMOUNT INVESTED PER CAPITA IN PERMANENTLY PROTECTING FARMLAND THROUGH 2017

Among states with PACE  
Smallest (TX): < \$0.01  
Largest (DE): \$6.03

# 0.94

ACRES DEVELOPED PER NEW PERSON ADDED TO THE STATE'S POPULATION BETWEEN 1982 AND 2012

Fewest (CT/MA): 0.11  
Most (ND): 4.07



PENALTY IMPOSED WHEN LAND IS WITHDRAWN FROM THE PTR PROGRAM AND FUNDS DEDICATED TO LAND PROTECTION

States w/ penalty: 29  
States w/o penalty: 21



**Farms Under Threat** is American Farmland Trust's multi-year initiative to document the status of and threats to U.S. farmland and rangeland and to identify policy solutions to ensure the protection and conservation of America's diverse agricultural landscape. For more information about AFT, visit [www.farmland.org](http://www.farmland.org). If you have any questions about the analysis methods or would like access to data, please contact AFT's Farmland Information Center: [www.farmlandinfo.org](http://www.farmlandinfo.org) or (800) 370-4879.



Explore our scorecard and scoresheets at [www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat](http://www.farmland.org/farmsunderthreat)

**Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**  
**Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program**  
Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat Systems Subcommittee  
Summary of 2020 Proposed Amendments to Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat\*A\*Syst

Number	Reason for Change
Entire Document	Change the current “Records or Evidence for MAEAP Verification” column heading to “Reference Information”. The reference tables are a great addition to the FWH document, but there is confusion due to the existing heading.
Definition Section	Remove U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service & DEQ. Retain Land Management Plan.
Legal Citations	Add: #21: Public Health Code, Act 368 of 1978 Part 127: Water Supply and Sewer Systems Remove: #6 – not a necessary legal citation & not used anywhere in the tool.
Reference Fact Sheet	Remove this section. This information is covered in Table 2. Also removes web-links that often go bad.
Additional Resources	<p><b>Edit B:</b> Add to Description: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Wetlands Map Viewer</p> <p><b>Add to EE:</b> Master Logger Certification</p> <p><b>Edit HH:</b> Remove this resource, no longer available. Falls under Fisheries Habitat Program.</p> <p><b>Edit II:</b> Michigan DNR Fisheries Habitat Grant Program</p> <p><b>Edit W:</b> Include: MDARD list of qualified foresters by County, USDA NRCS TSP, SAF CF, Association of Consulting Foresters, Certified FSP plan writer, Certified Wildlife Biologist, Michigan DNR Registered Forester, An individual recognized by MDARD to write LMP’s. Description: MDARD, USDA NRCS, Society of American Foresters, Association of Consulting Foresters, The Wildlife Society, Michigan DNR.</p> <p><b>Add MM:</b> Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Description: U.S Fish &amp; Wildlife Service Provides a great resource to see if any listed species, critical habitat, migratory birds or other natural resources may be impacted by a project in a specified area.</p> <p><b>Add NN:</b> USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey. Description: USDA. User can create a soil map and generate soil reports here.</p> <p><b>Add OO:</b> Michigan State University Extension. Description: Michigan State University. MSUE features programming and resources for Agriculture, Business &amp; Community, Family, Food &amp; Health, Lawn &amp; Garden, Natural Resources and 4-H &amp; Youth.</p>
1.00	Misprint in Records column; change “compliant” to “complaint”. Add “at this property” to the end of the question. Add legal citations 12 & 20.
1.02	Change the risk question wording to: “Does the Land Management Plan (LMP) adequately address the landowner’s objectives and priorities relating to forests and wetlands, as well as wildlife and associated habitats?”
1.03	Re-worded risk question to more effectively communicate the question.
1.04	Removed the list of natural resource professionals and added the information to reference W.

1.06	Added text to the medium risk box to add additional information to the assessment.
1.07	Greatly altered the question and risk assessments. We really just want to know if SHPO has been checked. Added a reference.
1.07b	We are hoping to call out any specific areas of interest or special nature that the landowner might have that would not be included in any public documents like those of the State Historic Preservation Office.
1.08	Change wording to not use “compliant” and “prescribed”, which give the impression that this is a legal obligation. The BMPs are voluntary and outline methods that should help landowners to avoid actual non-compliance with the legal standards.
1.10b	Added question about unused wells.
1.15	Change wording to include, if fertilizer or other nutrients are applied.
1.15b	Added a question about soil type identification and mapping.
1.16	Re-worded question to add clarity.
1.18	Altered the question so it would incorporate what is outlined in the LMP to address unwanted pests, pathogens and vegetation.
1.19, 1.20 & 1.21	Re-order questions. New order: 1.20, 1.21 & 1.19. Remove ‘species’ from OLD 1.21; this question discusses habitat, not an individual species.
NEW 1.19	Add legal footnote 3 (Michigan Threatened and Endangered Species)
1.23	Remove question. Timber and habitat priorities are address in more detail elsewhere in the document. (1.02, 1.04, 1.17)
1.28	Low Risk Question needs to be boxed. I believe this was an error as it used to be boxed. Added a medium risk and boxed it.
2.10	Simplified the question to make it more direct. Added a few items to the additional resources.
4.01	Question was edited to move the emphasis of the question to better evaluate non-forested upland habitats.
4.02	Question was edited to bring our attention to any activities that may have required a permit within a critical dune area.

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RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.00) Has there ever been a formal Right to Farm or Right to Forest complaint?	There has never been a Right to Farm or Right to Forest complaint or the complaint was not verified, or the concern was resolved.		There was a formal Right to Farm or Right to Forest complaint and the concern was not resolved.	Producer’s verbal indication of compliant history.	

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.00)** Add, at this property. Grammar check in records column.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.00) Has there ever been a formal Right to Farm or Right to Forest complaint <b>at this property?</b>	There has never been a Right to Farm or Right to Forest complaint or the complaint was not verified, or the concern was resolved.		There was a formal Right to Farm or Right to Forest complaint and the concern was not resolved. <b>12 &amp; 20</b>	Producer’s verbal indication of <b>complaint</b> history.	

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RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.02) Does the Land Management Plan (LMP) adequately address the landowner’s priorities relating to forests, wetlands, and/or fish, wildlife and their associated habitats?	Landowner objectives are in writing and outlined in the LMP.		Landowner has objectives, but not in writing	Landowner has not considered objectives.	

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.02)** Change the risk question wording to: “Does the Land Management Plan (LMP) adequately address the landowner’s objectives and priorities relating to forests and wetlands, as well as wildlife and associated habitats?”

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.02) Does the Land Management Plan (LMP) adequately address the landowner’s objectives and priorities relating to forests and wetlands, as well as wildlife and associated habitats?”	Landowner objectives are in writing and outlined in the LMP.		Landowner has objectives, but not in writing	Landowner has not considered objectives.	

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RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.03) Is the Land Management Plan (LMP) active and adaptive (e.g., responding to natural events, change in objectives or in resource conditions) and address specific desired future conditions?	LMP is active and adaptive in case goals or resource conditions change and includes details of desired future conditions for each management unit.	LMP allows no active and adaptive management and/or general information about desired future conditions is included, but they are not specific to each management unit.	LMP allows no active and adaptive management and/or general information about desired future conditions is included, but they are not specific to each management unit.		

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

1.03) Re-worded risk question to more effectively communicate the question.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.03) Does the Land Management Plan (LMP) address specific desired future conditions, and is it adaptive in response to future events or changing objectives?	(LMP) address specific desired future conditions and is adaptive in response to future events or changing objectives.	LMP addresses active and adaptive management and/or general guidance about desired future conditions is included, but they are not specific to each management unit.	No information about desired future conditions is in the LMP.		

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<p><b>1.04)</b> Is the Land Management Plan (LMP) based on professional guidance and science?</p>	<p>LMP was prepared by a natural resource professional such as a forester certified by the Society of American Foresters, a Forest Stewardship plan writer, a technical service provider as registered by the USDA-NRCS, a registered forester, wildlife biologist, or an individual recognized by MDARD to write LMPs.</p>	<p>LMP was prepared by a nonprofessional.</p>	<p>Landowner does not have an LMP.</p>	<p>MDARD List of Qualified Foresters by County  or  USDA NRCS Technical Service Provider Registry.  Table 2: W</p>
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**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.04)** Removed the list of natural resource professionals and added the information to reference W.

<p><b>1.04)</b> Is the Land Management Plan (LMP) based on professional guidance and science?</p>	<p><b>Yes, LMP is based on professional guidance and science.</b> <del>was prepared by a natural resource professional such as a forester certified by the Society of American Foresters, a Forest Stewardship plan writer, a technical service provider as registered by the USDA-NRCS, a registered forester, wildlife biologist, or an individual recognized by MDARD to write LMPs.</del></p>	<p><del>LMP was prepared by a nonprofessional.</del></p>	<p>Landowner does not have an LMP.</p>	<p><del>MDARD List of Qualified Foresters by County</del>  USDA NRCS Technical Service Provider Registry.  Michigan DNR Registered Forester Program  Table 2: W</p>
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<p><b>1.06)</b> Are property boundaries known and marked?</p>	<p>Property boundaries are known and were established by a licensed surveyor.</p>		<p>Property boundaries are not known.</p>		
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**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.06)** Added text to the medium risk box to add additional information to the assessment.

<p><b>1.06)</b> Are property boundaries known and marked?</p>	<p>Property boundaries are known and were established by a licensed surveyor.</p>	<p>Property boundaries have been agreed upon by landowner and neighbors, but no official survey has been conducted</p>	<p>Property boundaries are not known.</p>		
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**CURRENT DOCUMENT**

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.07) Are historical or archaeological artifacts or areas located on the site and addressed in the plan?	Landowner minimizes impact to sites and, if applicable, contacts the State Historic Preservation Office for technical assistance in historic site preservation.	Landowner minimizes impact to site.	Landowner does not minimize impact to site.	State Archaeologist, State Historic Preservation Office of Michigan Table 2: M	

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.07)** Greatly altered the question and risk assessments. We really just want to know if SHPO has been checked. Added a reference.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.07) <del>Are historical or archaeological artifacts or areas located on the site, and addressed in the plan?</del>  Has the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) been contacted and the database checked for property covered under this LMP?	<del>Landowner minimizes impact to sites and, if applicable, contacts the State Historic Preservation Office for technical assistance in historic site preservation.</del>  SHPO has been checked, results are found in the LMP and, if applicable, the landowner minimizes impact to the site.	<del>Landowner minimizes impact to site.</del>  SHPO has been checked, results are found in the LMP, however, the landowner does not minimize impact to the site.	<del>Landowner does not minimize impact to site.</del>  SHPO has not been checked.	State Archaeologist, State Historic Preservation Office of Michigan  Table 2: M & D	

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**NEW QUESTION**

We are hoping to call out any specific areas of interest or special nature that the landowner might have that would not be included in any public documents like those of the State Historic Preservation Office.

**\*To be placed after 1.07.**

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.07b) Are any special sites designated by the landowner on this property?	If yes, the special site(s) has been identified, documented in the LMP and landowner minimizes impact to the site.		If yes, the special site(s) has been identified, but not documented in the LMP and landowner minimizes impact to the site.		

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RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.08) Is the landowner compliant with practices prescribed in Michigan Forestry Best Management Practices for Soil and Water Quality?	Yes.		No.	Michigan Forestry Best Management Practices for Soil and Water Quality. Table 2: C	

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.08)** Change wording to not use “compliant” and “prescribed”, which give the impression that this is a legal obligation. The BMPs are voluntary and outline methods that should help landowners to avoid actual non-compliance with the legal standards.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.08) <del>Does the landowner follow the Michigan Forestry Best Management Practices for Soil and Water Quality?</del> <del>Is the landowner compliant with practices prescribed in Michigan Forestry Best Management Practices for Soil and Water Quality?</del>	Yes.		No.	<del>Michigan Forestry Best Management Practices for Soil and Water Quality. Table 2: C</del>	

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**NEW QUESTION**

**\*To be placed after 1.10.**

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.10b) Is there and unused well located on the property?	No unused well or abandoned well properly sealed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unused well temporarily abandoned properly: Meets minimum isolation distances.</li> <li>-Is disconnected from any water distribution piping</li> <li>-Has the top of the casing securely capped.</li> </ul>	<b>Unused, unsealed well located on site.</b> <sup>21</sup>	Unused well(s) properly sealed.	

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RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.15) What soil nutrient management records are kept?	Records of soil test reports and quantities of nutrients applied to individual areas are maintained.	Partial nutrient management records are kept. Complete nutrient management records will be kept in the future, for review at the time of reverification.	Minimal or no nutrient management records kept.	Three years of records – or five years, if applying manure – or plans to begin keeping records. Soil fertility tests and/or plant analysis results. Date(s) of application(s). Nutrient composition of fertilizer or other material used. Amount of nutrient-supplying material applied per acre. Method of application and placement of applied nutrients. Vegetative growth and cropping history of perennial crops.	

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

1.15) Change wording to include, if fertilizer or other nutrients are applied.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.15) <b>If fertilizer or other nutrients are applied,</b> what soil nutrient management records are kept?	Records of soil test reports and quantities of nutrients applied to individual areas are maintained.	Partial nutrient management records are kept. Complete nutrient management records will be kept in the future, for review at the time of reverification.	Minimal or no nutrient management records kept.	Three years of records – or five years, if applying manure – or plans to begin keeping records. Soil fertility tests and/or plant analysis results. Date(s) of application(s). Nutrient composition of fertilizer or other material used. Amount of nutrient-supplying material applied per acre. Method of application and placement of applied nutrients. Vegetative growth and cropping history of perennial crops.	

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**NEW QUESTION**

**\*To be placed after 1.15.**

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
1.15b) Have soil types have been identified and mapped for property covered under this LMP?	Yes, they have been identified and mapped.		No, they have not been identified or mapped.	Table 2: NN	

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RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
<b>1.16)</b> Have resource concerns been identified in the Land Management Plan?	Yes, they have been identified.	Yes, they have been identified and there is intention to follow up.	No, they have not been identified.  OR  Yes, but no plan of action has been identified.		

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.16)** Re-worded question to add clarity.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
<b>1.16)</b> Have resource concerns been identified in the Land Management Plan?	A site assessment occurred and no resource concerns were found or, Yes, resource concerns they have been identified and actions are being taken according to LMP recommendations.	Yes, resource concerns they have been identified and there is intention to follow up.	No, they have not been identified. A site assessment has not be conducted to search for Resource Concerns.  OR  Yes, resource concerns have been identified, but there is no plan of action has been identified. intention to follow up.		



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RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
<b>1.18)</b> How is management for pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation taking place?	Integrated pest management for pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation is in place.	Integrated pest management for pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation is planned, but not yet implemented.	No pest management is conducted.	DNR Forest Stewardship Program  MSUE  Table 2: L	

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.18)** Altered the question so it would incorporate what is outlined in the LMP to address unwanted pests, pathogens and vegetation. Boxed medium risk.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>AIR, WATER AND SOIL PROTECTION</b>					
<b>1.18)</b> <del>How is management</del> Does the LMP provide management strategies for addressing unwanted pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation taking place?	Management strategies for integrated pest management for to address unwanted pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation is in place addressed in the LMP and is being implemented.	Management strategies for integrated pest management to address unwanted pests, pathogens and vegetation is addressed in the LMP but not yet being implemented. Integrated pest management for pests, pathogens and unwanted vegetation is planned, but not yet implemented.	The LMP does not provide management strategies for addressing unwanted pests, pathogens and vegetation. No pest management is conducted.	Table 2: L, D & OO	

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**1.19, 1.20 & 1.21)** We would like to change the order of these questions. The new order should go: 1.20, 1.21 & 1.19. Added legal citation to NEW 1.19. Also provided edits in NEW 1.20 as well as a few new records/evidence in each question.

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3  (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE  FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>HABITAT RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>1.19)</b> Is the land managed with consideration for migratory birds?	Land is managed to maintain and enhance migratory bird populations and habitat.	Land is managed without harm to migratory bird populations and habitat.	<b>Land is managed in a manner that is detrimental to migratory bird populations and habitat.<sup>4</sup></b>		
<b>1.20)</b> How are adverse impacts to federal- or state-listed threatened and endangered species avoided?	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are completed. If listed species are thought to be present, then Best Management Practices (BMPs) are included in a Land Management Plan (LMP) and are properly implemented on the property.	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are completed. If listed species are thought to be present, then BMPs are included in an LMP. At a minimum, no action is taken that will adversely impact the species or habitat.	No assessment has been completed, potential status of listed species on the property is unknown and no consideration of listed species is made when habitat is altered on the property.  OR  <b>Action is knowingly being taken that adversely impacts listed species.<sup>2</sup></b>	DNR Forest Stewardship Program  MSUE  Table 2: D and N	
<b>1.21)</b> How are rare or sensitive habitats addressed on the property?	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are complete. If rare or sensitive species or habitats are thought to be present, especially Michigan Natural Features Inventory S1 and S2 types, then applicable management practices are included in a Land Management Plan (LMP) and are properly implemented on the property.	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are complete. If rare or sensitive species or habitats are thought to be present, then Best Management Practices are included in an LMP. At a minimum, no action is taken that will adversely impact the species or habitat.	No assessment exists, potential status rare or sensitive species or habitats on the property are unknown and no consideration of these species or habitats are made when habitat is altered on the property.  OR  Action is knowingly being taken that adversely impacts the species or habitats.	DNR Forest Stewardship Program  MSUE  Table 2: D and N	

**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	YOUR RISK
<b>HABITAT RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>1.19)</b> How are adverse impacts to federal- or state-listed threatened and endangered species avoided?	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are completed. If listed species are thought to be present, then Best Management Practices (BMPs) are included in a Land Management Plan (LMP) and are properly implemented on the property.	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are completed. If listed species are thought to be present, then BMPs are included in an LMP. At a minimum, no action is taken that will adversely impact the species or habitat.	No assessment has been completed, potential status of listed species on the property is unknown and no consideration of listed species is made when habitat is altered on the property.  OR  <b>Action is knowingly being taken that adversely impacts listed species.<sup>2 &amp; 3</sup></b>	Table 2: A, D, N, MM & OO	
<b>1.20)</b> How are rare or sensitive habitats addressed on the property?	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are complete. If rare or sensitive <del>species or</del> habitats are thought to be present, especially Michigan Natural Features Inventory S1 and S2 types, then applicable management practices are included in a Land Management Plan (LMP) and are properly implemented on the property.	A database assessment and/or on-site inventory are complete. If rare or sensitive <del>species or</del> habitats are thought to be present, then Best Management Practices are included in an LMP. At a minimum, no action is taken that will adversely impact the <del>species or</del> habitat.	No assessment exists, potential status rare or sensitive <del>species or</del> habitats on the property are unknown and no consideration of these <del>species or</del> habitats are made when habitat is altered on the property.  OR  Action is knowingly being taken that adversely impacts the <del>species or</del> habitats.	Table 2: A, D, N, MM & OO	
<b>1.21)</b> Is the land managed with consideration for migratory birds?	Land is managed to maintain and enhance migratory bird populations and habitat.	Land is managed without harm to migratory bird populations and habitat.	<b>Land is managed in a manner that is detrimental to migratory bird populations and habitat.</b> <sup>4</sup>	Table 2: A, D, N, MM & OO	

Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat Systems Subcommittee  
2020 Recommended Changes to Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat\* A\* Syst

**CURRENT DOCUMENT**

<p><b>1.23)</b> How are potential conflicts between timber management and desired habitat development resolved?</p>	<p>A Land Management Plan (LMP) clearly identifies landowner’s goals and addresses both resources <u>and</u> is being implemented on the property.</p>	<p>An LMP clearly identifies landowner’s goals and addresses both resources <u>but</u> is yet to be fully implemented on the property.</p>	<p>No LMP that adequately addresses the landowner’s goals has been completed for the property.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>An LMP exists but it addresses only timber management or habitat management and not both.</p>		
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**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.23)** Remove question. Timber and habitat priorities are address in more detail elsewhere in the document. (See: 1.02, 1.04, 1.17, 1.24, 1.25) This question also seems a bit presumptuous that a conflict exists between timber management and habitat development that isn’t needed.

Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat Systems Subcommittee  
2020 Recommended Changes to Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat\* A\* Syst

**CURRENT DOCUMENT**

<p><b>1.28)</b> Does the landowner retain appropriate records for forest product harvests and other management activities?</p>	<p>Landowner retains appropriate records for forest product harvests and other management activities.</p>		<p>Landowner retains no records for forest product harvests and other management activities.</p>		
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**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**1.28)** Low Risk Question needs to be boxed. I believe this was an error as it used to be boxed. Added a medium risk and boxed it.

<p><b>1.28)</b> Does the landowner retain appropriate records for forest product harvests and other management activities?</p>	<p>Landowner retains appropriate records for forest product harvests and other management activities.</p>	<p>Landowner has no records but plans to retain appropriate records for future activities.</p>	<p>Landowner retains no records for forest product harvests and other management activities.</p>		
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Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat Systems Subcommittee  
2020 Recommended Changes to Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat\* A\* Syst

**CURRENT DOCUMENT**

<p><b>2.10) If timber harvesting is done, was a qualified logging professional used?</b></p>	<p>Timber harvesting is done by qualified logging professional.</p>		<p>No specific qualifications are required of logging contractors.</p>	<p>Sustainable Forestry Initiative  Qualified Logging Professionals and Michigan Association of Timbermen  Table 2: Y, and EE</p>	
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**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**2.10) Simplified the question to make it more direct. Added master logger certification to the additional resources. SFI is not applicable.**

<p><del>2.10) If timber harvesting is done, was a qualified logging professional used?</del></p> <p>Is the landowner aware of logger credentialing programs?</p>	<p><del>Timber harvesting is done by qualified logging professional.</del></p> <p>Yes.</p>		<p><del>No specific qualifications are required of logging contractors.</del></p> <p>No.</p>	<p>Sustainable Forestry Initiative  <del>Qualified Logging Professionals and Michigan Association of Timbermen</del>  Table 2: <del>Y</del>, and EE</p>	
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Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat Systems Subcommittee  
2020 Recommended Changes to Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat\* A\* Syst

**CURRENT DOCUMENT**

<p><b>4.01)</b> Are non-forested upland habitats being assessed for restoration potential by agency personnel or others trained in habitat restoration or improvement based on landowner objectives?</p>	<p>Restoration potential is assessed for all non-forested upland habitats on the property.</p>	<p>Restoration potential is assessed for some non-forested upland habitats on the property.</p>	<p>No assessment of restoration potential has been started.</p>	<p>Table 2: Q, R, T, and W</p>	
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**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**4.01)** Question was edited to move the emphasis of the question to better evaluate non-forested upland habitats.

<p><b>4.01)</b> Does the LMP address the health and current conditions of non-forested upland habitat? If restoration of non-forested upland habitat is needed, does the LMP provide guidance for restoration activities? <del>Are non-forested upland habitats being assessed for restoration potential by agency personnel or others trained in habitat restoration or improvement based on landowner objectives?</del></p>	<p>The LMP properly addresses the health and current conditions of non-forested upland habitats and, if needed, provides guidance for restoration activities. <del>Restoration potential is assessed for all non-forested upland habitats on the property.</del></p>	<p><del>Restoration potential is assessed for some non-forested upland habitats on the property.</del></p>	<p>Health and current conditions of non-forested upland habitats is not addressed and no guidance for restoration activities is provided. <del>No assessment of restoration potential has been started.</del></p>	<p>Table 2: Q, R, T, and W</p>	
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Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat Systems Subcommittee  
2020 Recommended Changes to Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat\* A\* Syst

**CURRENT DOCUMENT**

<p><b>4.02)</b> Are any non-forested upland habitats part of a critical dune area? If yes, have activities taken place in the past or planned for the future?</p>	<p>None of the non-forested upland habitats are part of a critical dune area</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Habitats are part of critical dune area BUT no activities requiring a permit have, or will, take place.</p>	<p>Non-forested upland habitats are part of a critical dune area, activities requiring a permit have taken place, and a permit was obtained.</p>	<p><b>Non-forested upland habitats are part of a critical dune area, activities requiring a permit have taken place, and a permit was not<sup>19</sup> obtained.</b></p>		
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**PROPOSED CHANGE PROPOSED CHANGE & NOTES:**

**4.02)** Question was edited to bring our attention to any activities that may have required a permit within a critical dune area.

<p><del>4.02) Are any non-forested upland habitats part of a critical dune area? If yes, have activities taken place in the past or planned for the future?</del></p> <p><b>Have any past, present or future activities occurred in a critical dune area that requires a permit?</b></p> <p><b>Are any recent or proposed activities that require a permit occurring in critical dune areas?</b></p>	<p><del>None of the non-forested upland habitats are part of a critical dune area</del></p> <p><b>There are no critical dunes.</b></p> <p>OR</p> <p><del>Habitats are part of critical dune area</del><b>Critical dunes are present</b> BUT no <b>recent</b> activities requiring a permit have, or will, take place.</p>	<p><del>Non-forested upland</del><b>H</b>abitats are part of a critical dune area, activities requiring a permit have taken place, and a permit was obtained.</p>	<p><b>Non-forested upland habitats are part of a critical dune area, activities requiring a permit have taken place, and a permit was not<sup>19</sup> obtained.</b></p>		
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**Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**  
**Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program**  
 Livestock System Subcommittee  
Summary of 2020 Proposed Amendments to Livestock\*A\*Syst

Number	Approval Date	Reason for Change
14.01	4-1-20	Remove question and replace to reflect new site screening tool use to assist producers
14.02	4-1-20	Remove question and replace to reflect new site screening tool use to assist producers
14.03	4-1-20	Remove question and replace to reflect new site screening tool use to assist producers
14.01a	4-1-20	New question to replace 14.01,14.02,14.03

**Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program  
Livestock System Subcommittee  
Summary of 2020 Proposed Amendments to Livestock\*A\*Syst**

**Current Text**

<p><b>14.01)</b> If the farm has 50 Animal Units (AU) or more, was the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMP for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) used to site new or expanding livestock production facilities constructed after January 1, 2017?*</p>	<p>Farm has built new or expanded since January 1, 2017 and has Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification. MDARD verification is required for sites housing 50 AU or greater in Category 1 and Category 2 locations.</p>		<p>The farm has built new or expanded since January 1, 2017, and does not meet all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>, or the determination has not been made.</p>	<p>Consistent with Site Selection and Odor Control GAAMPs.</p>
<p><b>14.02)</b> If the farm has 50 Animal Units (AU) or more, was the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMPs for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) used to site new or expanding livestock production facilities constructed after June 1, 2000 and prior to December 31, 2016?*</p>	<p>Farm has Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification. MDARD verification is required for sites housing 500 AU or greater in a Category 1 location or 250 AU or greater in a Category 2 location.</p> <p>The farm has built new or expanded between 2000 and 2016 to house between 50 and 499 AU in a Category 1 location or between 50 and 249 AU in a Category 2 location and the producer submitted the Siting checklist to MDARD for an informal review and MDARD determined the site meets all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>.</p>	<p>The farm has built new or expanded between 2000 and 2016 to house between 50 and 499 AU in a Category 1 location or between 50 and 249 AU in a Category 2 location and the producer used the Siting checklist and the producer determined the site meets all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>.</p>	<p>The farm has built new or expanded since 2000 and does not meet all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>, or the determination has not been made.</p>	<p>Consistent with Site Selection and Odor Control GAAMPs.</p>

<p><b>14.03)</b> If the farm has less than 50 Animal Units, was the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMPs for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) used to determine the site category for facilities constructed after June 1, 2000*</p>	<p>The farm proactively achieved verification under the Michigan Right to Farm <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>.</p>	<p>Land use zoning allows for agriculture or the location has been determined to be a Category 1, 2, or 3 site and is not required to complete the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification process.</p>	<p>The farm has been determined to be a Category 4 location and is not eligible for MAEAP Livestock or Farmstead verification.</p>	<p>Zoning map or zoning use description provided or category determination provided by MDARD. See FAS 112S</p>
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\* These questions do not apply to farms where siting is not applicable, such as farms located in municipalities with populations greater than 100,000 where a zoning ordinance has been enacted to allow for agriculture. In addition, siting does not apply to research and educational institutions, or other locations as determined by MDARD.

**Delete 14.01, 14.02, 14.03**

**Add Question 14.01a**

<p><b>14.01a)</b> Were the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMPs for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) evaluated for livestock facility?*</p>	<p>Farm has Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification.</p>	<p>The farm has submitted the Livestock Site Screening Tool and passes the MDARD review.</p>	<p>The farm has built new or expanded since 2000 and does not meet all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>, or the Livestock Screening Tool has not been completed and reviewed.</p>	<p>Records of evidence.  Producer has official site selection GAAMP verification documentation.  Producer has completed site screening tool and has passed MDARD review.</p>
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**Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**  
**Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program**  
 Farmstead System Subcommittee  
Summary of 2020 Proposed Amendments to Farm\*A\*Syst

Number	Approval Date	Reason for Change
3.27	4.15.20	Box question to remain consistent with Greenhouse*A*Syst
7.18	4.15.20	New educational question related to portable toilets outlining potential hazards that are related to portable toilets and the locations of these hazards
9.09	4.15.20	Update language to be consistent with BODA standards
9.01a	4.15.20	New question to reflect new site screening tool use to assist producers replace 9.01,9.02,9.03
9.01 9.02 9.03	4.15.20	Deleted for consistency with LAS
9.07	3.28.20	To include language consistent with LAS 13.01

**Farmstead Systems Subcommittee: 2020 Proposed Amendments to Farm\*A\*Syst**

**Date:** 2/25/2020

**Submitter:** Mitch Reed

**Reason for Amendments:** The same question is boxed in the Greenhouse A\*Syst. We are boxing it in the Farmstead A\*Syst for consistency.

**Current Text**

3.27) Where is the exterior of the spray equipment and tractor washed if there is accumulated residue?	Washed in containment or washed in the field in different locations >200' from the surface water, catch basins or tile inlets and >150' from a well.		Sprayer washed at the farmstead. <b>Rinse water dumped at farmstead or in nearby area or pond.</b> <sup>4</sup>	Satisfactory explanation of procedures for rinsing sprayer system.
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**Proposed Text**

3.27) Where is the exterior of the spray equipment and tractor washed if there is accumulated residue?	Washed in containment or washed in the field in different locations >200' from the surface water, catch basins or tile inlets and >150' from a well.		Sprayer washed at the farmstead. <b>Rinse water dumped at farmstead or in nearby area or pond.</b> <sup>4</sup>	Satisfactory explanation of procedures for rinsing sprayer system.
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Proposed Text

**Alternative Text**

Alternative Text approved (date):

Date: 2/25/2020

Submitter: K. Mead

Reason for Amendments: Include language in FAS that addresses potential hazards that are related to portable toilets and the locations of these hazards.

**Current Text**

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**Proposed Text**

7.18) Are portable toilets located in a place that minimizes the risk for environment contamination in the case of tipping, leaking, or malfunction?	Portable toilets are properly located to prevent or minimize risk of contamination to water wells, surface water, tile inlets or other water sources, and are addressed in the Emergency Plan and spill kits are available.	Portable toilets are properly located to prevent or minimize risk of contamination to water wells, surface water, tile inlets or other water sources.	A spill or leak from a portable toilet may run into nearby surface water or water wells in the event of a leak or spill	No sign of spill or discharge reaching surface water, sanitation units located a safe distance from sensitive areas.
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Proposed Text

**Alternative Text**

Alternative Text approved (date):

Date: 3/28/2019

Submitter: M. Reed

Reason for Amendments: Update the FAS with current BODA isolation distance standards.

**Current Text**

<p>9.09) If mortality composting is used, what are the isolation distances for the composting site?</p>	<p>Site is located at least 200 feet from waters of the state, 200 feet from any well, 200 feet from nearest non-farm residence and/or 2 feet above seasonal high water table.</p>		<p><b>Site is located less than 200 feet from waters of the state, 200 feet from any well, 200 feet from nearest non-farm residence, and 2 feet above seasonal high water table.</b></p>	<p>Isolation distances meet BODA requirements. The BODA supplement, available at the MAEAP.org website, has been completed and reviewed.</p>		
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**Proposed Text**

<p>9.09) If mortality composting is used, what are the isolation distances for the composting site?</p>	<p>Site is located at least 200 feet from waters of the state, 200 feet from any well, 200 feet from nearest non-farm residence and 2 feet above seasonal high water table.</p>		<p><b>Site is located less than 200 feet from waters of the state, 200 feet from any well, 200 feet from nearest non-farm residence, and 2 feet above seasonal high water table.<sup>15</sup></b></p>	<p>Isolation distances meet BODA requirements. The BODA supplement, available at the MAEAP.org website, has been completed and reviewed.</p>		
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Proposed Text

**Alternative Text**

Alternative Text approved (date):

Date: 3/28/2020

Submitter: M. Reed

Reason for Amendments: To include language from BODA standards regarding burial isolation distances from water wells within FAS 9.07 and to make FAS 9.07 consistent with LAS 13.01 regarding how animal mortalities are handled.

**Current Text**

<p>9.07) How are animal mortalities handled?</p>	<p>Animals are buried, incinerated (requires permit), land filled, placed in a compost pile or picked up by a rendering service within 24 hours of death or stored for a maximum of seven days at 40 degrees F or a maximum of 30 days at 0 degrees F before proper disposal of the carcass.</p>		<p>Animals are not buried, incinerated, land filled, placed in a compost pile or picked up by a rendering service within 24 hours of death. Or, stored for more than seven days at 40 degrees F or more than 30 days at 0 degrees F before disposal of the carcass.<sup>15</sup></p>	<p>Disposal of dead animal bodies is done according to the Bodies of Dead Animals Act (BODA), as amended in 2008. Up-to-date forms on file for verification. (See FAS 112S)</p>	
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**Proposed Text**

<p>9.07) How are animal mortalities handled?</p>	<p>Animals are buried (at least 200' from any existing groundwater well that is used to supply potable drinking water), incinerated (requires permit), land filled, placed in a compost pile or picked up by a rendering service, anaerobically digested or other methods as approved by the Director of MDARD. Mortality is removed within 24 hours of death or stored for a maximum of seven days at 40 degrees F or a maximum of 30 days at 0 degrees F before proper disposal of the carcass. Records of mortality disposal, including burial, are kept on file and available for inspection.</p>		<p>Animals are not buried, incinerated, land filled, placed in a compost pile or picked up by a rendering service within 24 hours of death. Or, stored for more than 7 days at 40 degrees F or more than 30 days at 0 degrees F before disposal of the carcass.<sup>15</sup></p>	<p>Disposal of dead animal bodies is done according to the Bodies of Dead Animals Act (BODA), as amended in 2008. Up-to-date forms on file for verification. (See FAS 112S.)</p> <p>Forms for recording mortality disposal including burial record forms and compost record forms are available on the MAEAP website at: <a href="http://www.maeap.org/get_verified/livestock_system">http://www.maeap.org/get_verified/livestock_system</a>.</p>	
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Proposed Text

**Alternative Text**

Alternative Text approved (date):



**Date:** 4.1.20

**Submitted:** J. Appleby

**Reason:** Adopt language approved by LAS committee

**Current Text**

<p><b>9.01)</b> If the farm has 50 Animal Units (AU) or more, was the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMP for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) used to site new or expanding livestock production facilities constructed after January 1, 2017?*</p>	<p>Farm has built new or expanded since January 1, 2017 and has Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification. MDARD verification is required for sites housing 50 AU or greater in Category 1 and Category 2 locations.</p>		<p>The farm has built new or expanded since January 1, 2017, and does not meet all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>, or the determination has not been made.</p>	<p>Consistent with Site Selection and Odor Control GAAMPs.</p>	
<p><b>9.02)</b> If the farm has 50 Animal Units (AU) or more, was the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMPs for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) used to site new or expanding livestock production facilities constructed after June 1, 2000 and prior to December 31, 2016?*</p>	<p>Farm has Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification. MDARD verification is required for sites housing 500 AU or greater in a Category 1 location or 250 AU or greater in a Category 2 location.</p> <p>The farm has built new or expanded between 2000 and 2016 to house between 50 and 499 AU in a Category 1 location or between 50 and 249 AU in a Category 2 location and the producer</p>	<p>The farm has built new or expanded between 2000 and 2016 to house between 50 and 499 AU in a Category 1 location or between 50 and 249 AU in a Category 2 location and the producer used the Siting checklist and the producer determined the site meets all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>.</p>	<p>The farm has built new or expanded since 2000 and does not meet all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>, or the determination has not been made.</p>	<p>Consistent with Site Selection and Odor Control GAAMPs.</p>	

	submitted the Siting checklist to MDARD for an informal review and MDARD determined the site meets all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> .				
<b>9.03)</b> If the farm has less than 50 Animal Units, was the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMPs for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) used to determine the site category for facilities constructed after June 1, 2000*	The farm proactively achieved verification under the Michigan Right to Farm <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> .	Land use zoning allows for agriculture or the location has been determined to be a Category 1, 2, or 3 site and is not required to complete the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification process.	The farm has been determined to be a Category 4 location and is not eligible for MAEAP Livestock or Farmstead verification.	Zoning map or zoning use description provided or category determination provided by MDARD. See FAS 112S	
* These questions do not apply to farms where siting is not applicable, such as farms located in municipalities with populations greater than 100,000 where a zoning ordinance has been enacted to allow for agriculture. In addition, siting does not apply to research and educational institutions, or other locations as determined by MDARD.					

**Delete 9.01, 9.02, 9.03**

**Add Question 9.01a**

<p><b>9.01a)</b> Were the Michigan Right to Farm GAAMPs for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMPs) evaluated for livestock facility?*</p>	<p>Farm has Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i> verification.</p>	<p>The farm has submitted the Livestock Site Screening Tool and passes the MDARD review.</p>	<p>The farm has built new or expanded since 2000 and does not meet all of the <i>Site Selection GAAMPs</i>, or the Livestock Screening Tool has not been completed and reviewed.</p>	<p>Records of evidence.</p> <p>Producer has official site selection GAAMP verification documentation.</p> <p>Producer has completed site screening tool and has passed MDARD review.</p>
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**Cropping Systems Subcommittee**  
 2020 Proposed Amendments to Greenhouse\*A\*Syst

**Date:** 4-1-2020

**Submitter:** Josh Appleby

**Reason for Amendments:** Add question to address porta potties as approved for FAS

**Current Text**

14.03a					
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**Proposed Text**

14.03a) Are portable toilets located in a place that minimizes the risk for product contamination in the case of tipping, leaking, or malfunction?	Portable toilets are properly located to prevent or minimize risk of contamination to water wells, surface water, tile inlets or other water sources, and are addressed in the Emergency Plan and spill kits are available.	Portable toilets are properly located to prevent or minimize risk of contamination to water wells, surface water, tile inlets or other water sources.	A spill or leak from a portable toilet may run into nearby surface water or water wells in the event of a leak or spill	No sign of spill or discharge reaching surface water, sanitation units located a safe distance from sensitive areas.	
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# Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetables, Dairy, Meat, and Grain Processing Practices For Noise and Odor



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## PREFACE

The Michigan legislature passed into law the Michigan Agricultural Processing Act, (1998 PA 381), which requires the establishment of Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetable, Dairy, Meat and Grain Processing Practices. These Generally Accepted Processing Practices (GAPPs) are written to provide uniform, statewide standards and acceptable management practices based on standard industry practices. These practices can serve processors in the various sectors of the industry for comparison or improvement of their own managerial routines. New scientific discoveries and changing economic conditions may require necessary revision of the GAPPs.

These practices were developed with industry, university, and multi-governmental agency input. As agricultural processing operations continue to change, new practices or technologies may become available to address the concerns of the neighboring community. Agricultural processors who voluntarily follow these practices are provided protection from public or private nuisance litigation under the Michigan Agricultural Processing Act.

Adherence to these GAPPS does not affect the application of other state and federal statutes.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) website for GAPPs is <http://www.michigan.gov/gapps>.



## I. INTRODUCTION

Like all other segments of our economy, agriculture has changed significantly during the past 50 years and will continue to change in the future. Agricultural processing has also experienced these same economic, technical, and competitive changes, as land use changes around these operations. As a result, processing facilities must have the flexibility and opportunity to change and adopt newer technology to remain economically viable and competitive in the marketplace while being protective of the environment. If a healthy, growing processing industry in Michigan is to be assured, efforts must continue to address concerns of processors and their neighbors, particularly in two areas: (1) processors who use GAPPs in their operations should be protected from harassment and nuisance complaints and (2) persons living near processing operations, who do not follow GAPPs, need to have concerns addressed when nuisance problems occur.

No two processing operations in Michigan can be expected to be the same, due to a large variety of variables, which together determine the nature of a particular operation. Record keeping is an important part of any processing operation. A GAPPs Management and Monitoring Plan is recommended for all processors. This plan will help the processor show conformance with the GAPPs. Processors may request a proactive inspection from MDARD for a GAPPs determination. Upon receipt of a nuisance complaint to MDARD, or as result of a proactive inspection, the processor may be required to develop a management and record keeping plan to verify conformance with the GAPPs. In addition to the information contained in this document, conformance with GAPPs requires that the management, storage, transport, utilization, and land application of fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing by-products be in a manner consistent with Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices as established under the Michigan Right to Farm Act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.471 to 286.474.

### **About This Document**

For quick reference, management standards are first presented as a **bold text** statement. This list is not meant to convey all the information regarding GAPPs. Rather, it is intended to be a useful tool to assist individuals in determining what management practices exist and in what section of this document further information can be found. The remainder of the document provides additional information on each of these management practices. The un-bolded text provides supplemental information to help clarify the intent of the recommended management practices.

Appendix A provides an outline for development of a GAPPs Management Plan.

## II. DEFINITIONS

- (a) "Dairy product" means all of the following:
- (i) Dairy product as that term is defined in section 12 of the manufacturing milk law of 2001, 2001 PA 267, MCL 288.572.
  - (ii) Milk product as that term is defined in section 4 of the grade A milk law of 2001, 2001 PA 266, MCL 288.474.
- (b) "Fruit and vegetable product" means those plant items used by human beings for human food consumption including, but not limited to, field crops, root crops, berries, herbs, fruits, vegetables, flowers, seeds, grasses, tree products, mushrooms, and other similar products, or any other fruit and vegetable product processed for human consumption as determined by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- (c) "Generally accepted fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing practices" means those practices as defined by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development shall give due consideration to available Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development information and written recommendations from the Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, and other professional and industry organizations.
- (d) "Grain" means dry edible beans, soy beans, small grains, cereal grains, corn, grass seeds, hay, and legume seeds in a raw or natural state.
- (e) "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company, or other legal entity.
- (f) "Processing" means the commercial processing or handling of fruit, vegetable, dairy, meat, and grain products for human food consumption and animal feed, which includes but not limited to the following:
- (i) The generation of noise, odors, waste water, dust, fumes, and other associated conditions.
  - (ii) The operation of machinery and equipment necessary for a processing operation including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage systems and pumps and the movement of vehicles, machinery, equipment, and fruit and vegetable products, dairy products, meat, and grain products (*cont'd page 5...*)

and associated inputs necessary for fruit and vegetable, dairy, and grain, food, meat, or feed processing operations on the roadway as authorized by the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

- (iii) The management, storage, transport, utilization, and land application of fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing by-products consistent with generally accepted agricultural and management practices as established under the Michigan Right to Farm Act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.471 to 286.474.
- (iv) The conversion from one processing operation activity to another processing operation activity.
- (v) The employment and use of labor engaged in a processing operation.
- (g) "Processing operation" means the operation and management of a business engaged in processing.
- (h) "State statutes" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:
  - ( ) The county zoning act, 1943 PA 183, MCL 125.201 to 125.240.
  - (ii) The township zoning act, 1943 PA 184, MCL 125.271 to 125.310.
  - (iii) The city and village zoning act, 1921 PA 207, MCL 125.581 to 125.600.
  - (iv) The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106
- (i) "Unverified nuisance complaint" means a nuisance complaint in which the director of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, or his or her designee, determines that the processing operation is using generally accepted fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing.

### III. NOISE

**Noise that arises from the normal and necessary operation of an agricultural processing operation should be managed to the extent practical to avoid creating a nuisance condition for neighboring properties.**

The goal with outdoor noise levels is to reduce the intensity, frequency and duration of the noise and to manage the operation in a way that tends to create a positive attitude towards the operation. Because of the subjective nature of human responses to noise levels, recommendations for appropriate technology and management practices are not an exact science. A variety of practices can be used based upon the type of noise, proximity of neighbors and populated areas, and the time of day the noise levels are at their greatest. Maintaining a noise level of no greater than 75 decibels (dB), based upon an eight-hour time weighted average, measured at the property line is below the established standard for workers inside a building and should prevent creating health concerns for neighbors. Standard operations should be at a minimum maintained below this level to avoid creating nuisance concerns. In addition, the following conditions should be considered:

1. Some common contributors of noise coming from a processing facility include fan motors, evaporators, heating and ventilation systems, and loading/unloading areas. Sound reduction barriers may be utilized to reduce noise from these areas. Sound reduction barriers can take on a variety of forms. They can include the installation of noise reducing materials around the system, earthen berms, or the planting of tree and hedge barriers. The practices installed at a particular facility will vary depending upon the equipment used and the site specific conditions.
2. Assuring source equipment is in good repair and management consistent with industry practices and manufacturers recommendations is essential to maintaining reasonable facility noise levels.
3. Conformance with this GAPP does not relieve the processor of the obligation to comply with lawful and regulatory limits.

#### **Exceptions**

Certain events at a processing facility will create noise levels distinct from normal operations. These events create acceptable exceptions to this GAPP. Three classes of such events are especially relevant.

1. Seasonal Variation. Most food processors use raw agriculture products that have well defined harvesting times which result in peak processing needs for in-plant operation and input logistics (trucks, storage equipment, etc.). During these peak seasonal events, noise levels may exceed those of more normal operations but remain necessary for the effective operation of the processor.

Noise levels exceeding the 75 dB, or normal operation levels, but necessary to temporary peak operations are considered to be in conformance with this GAPP.

2. Maintaining Worker Safety. Due to worker safety concerns and compliance with worker safety requirements, vehicles and equipment may be equipped with safety devices such as back-up beepers or audible warning alarms. This equipment is considered essential to protecting worker safety. Operation and use of these alarms shall be considered to be in conformance with these GAPPs.
3. Construction, Maintenance, and Site Modifications. There may also be unique temporary circumstances which will affect the noise level of a processing site. During time periods where there are temporary disruptions to normal operations, processors should be encouraged to alert neighboring property owners of the circumstances and the duration of the project. Standard practices shall be utilized and the noise associated with those practices should be considered to be in conformance with this GAPP.

### **Documentation and Conformance**

Processing facilities should monitor noise levels outside of their buildings and at the property line. Records should be maintained to show the noise levels detected at various times throughout the operational day and year in order to determine seasonal variations. The records should be maintained on site to show conformance with this GAPP.

Depending on the perceived noise, it may be possible to estimate the noise level without instrumentation. There are various charts available of the noise levels at some distance of common noise generators. If various background noises such as insects, nearby highways, etc. can be used for comparison, be sure to include them in the documentation.

If a noise survey has been performed in the work spaces, it may be possible to conduct a comparison between the various determined zones of noise levels and those outside of the building for an estimate.

Instrument measurements are beneficial when the decibel level is questionable. When instrumentation is used, be aware that noise can originate from multiple sources. Measurements at different distances may be useful to determine if off-site sources are contributing. Building walls, hills, and other structures may reduce noise levels. The drop-in noise levels resulting from the implementation of these practices is highly variable and should be measured on-site to determine actual effectiveness. Alternatively, they can be left out of any measured values and referenced as an additional factor, not included in the measurement, rendering the result as a conservative estimate.

## IV. ODOR

**Odor that arises from the normal and necessary operation of an agricultural processing operation should be managed to the extent practical to avoid creating a nuisance condition for neighboring properties.**

The goal for effective odor management is to reduce the frequency, intensity, duration, and offensiveness of odors, and to manage the operation in a way that tends to create a positive attitude toward the operation. Because of the range of human sensitivities to certain odors, odor management should consider that some people will be more adversely affected by a given odor than others. Selection of appropriate technologies and odor management practices must be determined on a case-by-case basis considering the source and nature of the odors as well as varying human sensitivity. The recommendations in this section are intended to provide a variety of responses that can be used to address odor concerns. The following management practices provide guidance on how to minimize potential odors from processing operations.

The principles upon which the most common and effective techniques for odor control are based include (1) reducing the formation of odor-causing gases and (2) reducing the release of odorous gases into the atmosphere. The degree to which these principles can be applied to the various odor sources depends on the level of technology and management that can be utilized.

One main source of odors are those associated with the anaerobic (in the absence of oxygen) decomposition of organic material by microorganisms. The intensity of odors depends upon the biological reactions that take place within the material, the nature of the material, and the surface area of the odor source. Sources of decomposition can include organic materials stored on-site prior to removal.

Processors should select and implement those practices which are applicable, appropriate, and practical for their operations. Odors may indicate an inefficient or improperly operated activity and opportunities may exist to increase operational efficiencies. The following are several practices that can be considered in reducing odor concerns:

- Avoid storage of materials which will create odor-forming gases to the extent possible. Alternatives should be considered for reducing storage of these materials or reusing them in a beneficial manner.
- Use available weather information to your best advantage. Temperature inversions and hot, humid weather tends to concentrate and intensify odors, particularly in the absence of breezes, while turbulent breezes will dissipate and dilute odors.
- Take advantage of natural vegetation barriers, such as woodlots or windbreaks, to help filter and dissipate odors.

Establish vegetated air filters by planting conifers and shrubs as windbreaks and visual screens between odor sources and residential area.

- The odor of fermented processing materials, such as waste products or products headed to a secondary market, can be minimized by storing them at the appropriate dry matter content (generally no greater than 33 percent moisture). Keeping excessive moisture out of the material will reduce the presence of anaerobic bacteria. Use covered storage if technically and economically feasible and evaluate ventilation systems to prevent buildup of gases, moisture, and heat that may intensify odors.
- Design, operate and maintain by-product and waste handling and treatment systems per established good engineering practices and standards.
- Establish operating procedures for handling and treatment of by-products and wastes. Ensure employees are properly trained in these operational procedures.
- Frequent removal of spilled materials from outside spaces, coupled with appropriate storage will reduce odor potential.
- Avoid disturbing odor sources (such as dredging storage ponds) during times such as holidays and community events to the extent possible. Take advantage of cold weather seasons to complete these activities when feasible. Communicating with landowners as to when these events will occur and the duration of the event can help reduce odor concerns.
- Clean exhaust fans and shutters regularly of dust and debris to maximize warm season ventilation.
- Maintain equipment in good working order and in accordance with normal management practices.
- Maintaining positive community relations will also prevent the occurrence of nuisance complaints. Keeping the facility area esthetically pleasing and participation in community events helps to build positive community relations.

### **Exceptions**

Due to the nature of processing, certain odors may increase in intensity for a limited period of time during process start-up, shut-down, or product changeover. Other activities integral to agricultural processing, such as agitation, cleaning, and maintenance of storage structures or ponds, can occur at various times of the year, depending upon the operational needs of the facility. These temporary changes are acceptable under this GAPP provided they are normal and necessary to the operation. These activities may increase the intensity of the odors but should be relatively short in duration. Some larger facilities, or those with unique circumstances, may require a greater period of time for completing these activities in an appropriate manner. When possible, proper planning should occur prior to the event. Processors should maintain records of when these events occur and evaluate improvements to reduce odors and incorporate those improvements into their Odor Management Plan. Care should be taken to minimize off-site odor impacts to avoid creating a violation under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Public Act 451 of 1994.

## **Documentation and Conformance**

Documenting conformance with odor reduction should include routine olfactory observations made around the facility. A processor should evaluate their facility for potential odor sources and determine what practices are appropriate for addressing the concerns. Keeping records of odor events noted by employees, service providers, and neighbors, and determining the source of the concern will help the processor in addressing future concerns and create awareness by the processor of the activities creating potential odor concerns.

The development of an Odor Management Plan can also assist the processor in identification of odor sources and implementation of odor reduction practices. The goal of an effective Odor Management Plan is to identify opportunities and propose practices and actions to reduce the frequency, intensity, duration, and offensiveness of odors that neighbors may experience in such a way that tends to minimize impact on neighbors and create a positive attitude toward the processor. A processor experiencing odor concerns from a neighboring property should develop an Odor Management Plan in order to attempt to avoid neighbor conflicts. Some aspects of an Odor Management Plan include working with employees or routine service providers and asking them to report noticeable offensive odor events as they come and go from the facility and travel the community. The intent is to establish and maintain an effective, open line of communication with immediate neighbors so that they too will be comfortable reporting odor events to the facility.



## V. APPENDIX A - GAPP Management Plan

### Description of Facility:

- Indicate facility type, location and operational times
- Identify times of year where increases in noise and odor levels are expected to be greatest due to operational changes
- Schedule for plan review and evaluation

### Noise Monitoring:

- Identify any areas of noise generation that may create a concern for neighboring properties
- Determine what practices may be utilized to reduce or eliminate noise level concerns
- Determine frequency of noise to determine appropriate monitoring schedule
- Document schedule that will be followed
- Document methodology that will be used to determine noise levels (i.e. comparison to common noise generators, monitoring equipment)
- Keep records

### Odor Monitoring

- Identify any areas of odor generation that may create a concern for neighboring properties
- Determine what practices may be utilized to reduce or eliminate odor concerns
- Determine frequency and quantify intensity of odor to determine appropriate monitoring schedule
- Document schedule that will be followed
- Document methodology that will be used to determine odor levels (i.e. complaints from neighbors, employees, or regular service providers)
- Keep records

## VI. APPENDIX B - REVIEW COMMITTEE

Listed below are the Food Processing GAPP Committee members that developed these Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetable, Dairy, Meat, and Grain Processing Practices for Noise and Odor for agricultural processing operations.

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## MDARD Legislative Update: 9/1/2020

Type	Bill #	Subject	Date of Last Action	Last Action	Primary Sponsor	Position (if applicable)
Senate Bill	<a href="#">174</a>	Animals; other; animal industry act; modify. Amends title & secs. 1, 3, 7, 9, 11b, 12, 14, 19, 20, 22, 31, 39, 40, 43 & 44 of 1988 PA 466 (MCL 287.701 et seq.); adds secs. 3a, 3b, 12a, 12b, 14a, 17b, 17c, 17d, 40a, 40b & 43a & repeals secs. 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 13a, 15, 16, 17a, 23, 24, 24a, 26a, 27, 28, 29, 29a, 30, 30a, 30b, 30c, 30d, 32, 33, 35, 41 & 46 of 1988 PA 466 (MCL 287.704 et seq.).	12/3/19	PA 132 '19	Kevin Daley	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">179</a>	Animals; other; definition of livestock in agricultural commodities marketing act; modify citations. Amends sec. 2 of 1965 PA 232 (MCL 290.652). <b>TIE BAR WITH: SB 0174'19</b>	12/3/19	PA 133 '19	Roger Victory	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">180</a>	Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for violations of animal industry act; modify citations. Amends sec. 12m, ch. XVII of 1927 PA 175 (MCL 777.12m). <b>TIE BAR WITH: SB 0174'19</b>	12/3/19	PA 134 '19	Dan Lauwers	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">181</a>	Animals; other; definition of livestock and reference to animal industry act in Michigan penal code; modify citations. Amends secs. 50 & 50b of 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.50 & 750.50b). <b>TIE BAR WITH: SB 0174'19</b>	12/3/19	PA 135 '19	Dan Lauwers	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">182</a>	Animals; other; definition of livestock and reference to animal industry act in wildlife depredations act; modify citations. Amends secs. 2 & 3 of 2012 PA 487 (MCL 285.362 & 285.363). <b>TIE BAR WITH: SB 0174'19</b>	12/3/19	PA 136 '19	Ed McBroom	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">183</a>	Animals; other; definition of livestock in wolf-dog cross act; modify citations. Amends sec. 2 of 2000 PA 246 (MCL 287.1002). <b>TIE BAR WITH: SB 0174'19</b>	12/3/19	PA 137 '19	Ed McBroom	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">361</a>	Animals; other; definition of livestock in the Michigan fireworks safety act; modify citation. Amends sec. 12 of 2011 PA 256 (MCL 28.462).	11/21/19	PA 138 '19	Jim Ananich	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">450</a>	Agriculture; animals; amount charged for livestock dealer license fee; extend sunset. Amends sec. 3 of 1937 PA 284 (MCL 287.123).	10/2/19	PA 86 '19	Curtis Hertel	Support
House Bill	<a href="#">4035</a>	Animals; dogs; local government regulating a dog based on breed or perceived breed; prohibit. Creates new act.	2/26/20	Referred to Committee of Ways and Means	Jim Ellison	Support
House Bill	<a href="#">4496</a>	Animals; research facilities; certain research facilities to offer certain laboratory animals for adoption before euthanization; require. Creates new act.	11/5/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Kevin Hertel	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">175</a>	Animals; other; reference to animal industry act in act governing ferrets; modify citations. Amends sec. 1 of 1994 PA 358 (MCL 287.891).	3/7/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Kevin Daley	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">176</a>	Animals; other; reference to animal industry act in act governing the licensing of livestock dealers; modify citations. Amends secs. 4 & 7 of 1937 PA 284 (MCL 287.124 & 287.127).	3/7/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Kevin Daley	Support

Senate Bill	<a href="#">177</a>	Animals; other; reference to animal industry act in Michigan aquaculture act; modify citations. Amends secs. 6 & 8 of 1996 PA 199 (MCL 286.876 & 286.878).	3/7/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Jim Ananich	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">178</a>	Animals; other; reference to animal industry act in general property tax act; modify citations. Amends secs. 7dd & 34c of 1893 PA 206 (MCL 211.7dd & 211.34c).	3/7/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Roger Victory	Support
House Bill	<a href="#">5203</a>	Agriculture; other; office of the small farms coordinator; create. Creates new act.	11/6/2019	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Angela Witwer	
House Bill	<a href="#">4593</a>	Animals; care and treatment; devocalization procedure on an animal; prohibit, except for a therapeutic purpose. Amends 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.1101 - 333.25211) by adding sec. 18830.	5/15/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Tim Sneller	
House Bill	<a href="#">4594</a>	Crimes; animals; ownership, possession, breeding, sale, and importing of nonhuman primates; prohibit with certain exceptions and provide penalty. Amends 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.1 - 750.568) by adding sec. 70b.	5/15/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Jim Ellison	
House Bill	<a href="#">4595</a>	Animals; birds; issuance of carrier pigeon permits; require compliance with local ordinances and regulations, and prohibit the enactment of local ordinances that prohibit the keeping of carrier pigeons. Amends sec. 2 of 1974 PA 57 (MCL 433.352).	5/15/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Frank Liberati	
House Bill	<a href="#">4596</a>	Animals; cats; establishment and promotion of community cat programs; provide for. Creates new act.	5/15/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Laurie Pohutsky	
House Bill	<a href="#">4641</a>	Crimes; animals; penalties for performing or allowing a devocalization procedure to be performed if no therapeutic purpose; provide for. Amends sec. 50 of 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.50).	5/21/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Sherry Gay-Dagnogo	
House Bill	<a href="#">4947</a>	Food; other; labeling as meat a laboratory-grown meat substitute; prohibit. Amends sec. 7129 of 2000 PA 92 (MCL 289.7129).	9/11/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Beau LaFave	
House Bill	<a href="#">4833</a>	Agriculture; animals; import or transfer live Cervidae from a region that has tested positive for chronic wasting disease; prohibit. Amends sec. 30a of 1988 PA 466 (MCL 287.730a).	8/29/19	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Thomas Albert	
House Bill	<a href="#">5085</a>	Health occupations; veterinarians; consulting with animal owner on the use of marihuana and CBD oil; allow under certain circumstances. Amends 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.1101 - 333.25211) by adding sec. 18817.	2/26/2020	Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means	Douglas Markkanen	
House Bill	<a href="#">5090</a>	Animals; care and treatment; experimentation on dogs in a manner that causes pain or distress, and certain related activities, by an affiliate of a public body; prohibit. Creates new act.	10/8/2019	Referred to the Committee of Agriculture	Sara Cambensy	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">185</a>	Drains; maintenance and improvement; frequency of maintenance; limit based on period since most recent maintenance assessment. Amends secs. 196 & 201 of 1956 PA 40 (MCL 280.196 & 280.201).	3/7/19	Referred to the Committee of Local Government	Jim Stamas	
House Bill	<a href="#">5060</a>	Drains; maintenance and improvement; expenditures and assessments without petition; increase maximum amounts. Amends sec. 196 of 1956 PA 40 (MCL 280.196).	6/3/2020	Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means	Alex Garza	Support

House Bill	<a href="#">5126</a>	Drains; other; petition to add or remove lands and notice of receipt of bids and review of apportionments; revise requirements. Amends secs. 135 & 154 of 1956 PA 40 (MCL 280.135 & 280.154).	6/3/2020	Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means	Steven Johnson	Support
House Bill	<a href="#">5508</a>	Animals; cats; certain medical procedures for declawing a cat; prohibit. Creates new act.	2/20/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Nate Shannon	
House Bill	<a href="#">5577</a>	Animals; care and treatment; adequate shelter for dogs; clarify. Amends sec. 50 of <a href="#">1931 PA 328</a> (MCL <a href="#">750.50</a> ).	3/4/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Darrin Camolleri	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">823</a>	Cemeteries and funerals; other; pet cemetery regulation act; create. Creates new act.	3/5/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Paul Wojno	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">850</a>	Agriculture; industrial hemp; regulations for growing industrial hemp; create. Creates new act.	6/30/2020	PA 137 '20	Dan Lauwers	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">851</a>	Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; allowing a falsified preharvest sample to be tested; provide for. Amends sec. 12m, ch. XVII of 1927 PA 175 (MCL 777.12m).	3/17/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Dan Lauwers	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">852</a>	Agriculture; industrial hemp; regulations for growing industrial hemp; create. Creates new act.	6/18/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Dan Lauwers	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">853</a>	Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; allowing a falsified preharvest sample to be tested; provide for. Amends sec. 12m, ch. XVII of 1927 PA 175 (MCL 777.12m).	3/17/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Dan Lauwers	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">869</a>	Occupations; individual licensing and registration; pesticide applicator licensing; extend during a declared emergency. Amends secs. 8312 & 8317 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.8312 & 324.8317).	5/6/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Wayne Schmidt	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">870</a>	Agriculture; weights and measures; vapor pressure restrictions on gasoline sales; suspend during a declared emergency. Amends secs. 3 & 9k of <a href="#">1984 PA 44</a> (MCL <a href="#">290.643</a> & <a href="#">290.649k</a> ).	5/6/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Wayne Schmidt	
House Bill	<a href="#">5903</a>	Food; other; regulations regarding peppers, cloves, and nutmeg; repeal. Repeals <a href="#">1919 PA 418</a> (MCL <a href="#">289.521</a> - <a href="#">289.526</a> ).	6/24/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Matt Maddock	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">419</a>	Animals; other; registration and regulation of animal rescues; provide for. Amends title & secs. 1, 2, 5a, 6, 7, 8, 8a, 8b, 8c, 9a & 9b of 1969 PA 287 (MCL 287.331 et seq.) & adds sec. 8d.	6/25/20	Referred to the Committee of the Whole	Peter Lucido	Opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">5239</a>	Agriculture; animals; Michigan equine commission; create. Creates new act.	1/16/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture (Testimony taken)	Hank Vaupel	Neutral
Senate Bill	<a href="#">728</a>	Appropriations; zero budget; department of agriculture and rural development; provide for fiscal year 2020-2021. Creates appropriation act.	1/22/2020	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations	Roger Victory	
House Bill	<a href="#">5381</a>	Appropriations; zero budget; department of agriculture and rural development; provide for fiscal year 2020-2021. Creates appropriation act.	1/23/2020	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations	Greg VanWoerkom	

House Bill	<a href="#">4806</a>	Public utilities; public service commission; licensing of electric vehicle charging station operators; provide for. Amends title & secs. 10g, 10h & 10q of 1939 PA 3 (MCL 460.10g et seq.).	2/19/20	Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means	Andrea Schroeder	Opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">4807</a>	Agriculture; weights and measures; pricing for charging of electric vehicles; standardize price displays. Amends 1964 PA 283 (MCL 290.601 - 290.635) by adding sec. 28g.	7/10/19	Referred to the Committee on Energy	Padma Kuppa	Opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">5574</a>	State; symbol; cherry; designate as official state fruit. Creates new	2/27/2020	Referred to the Committee on Government Operations	Rebekah Warren	
House Bill	<a href="#">5730</a>	Occupations; individual licensing and registration; pesticide applicator licensing; extend during a declared emergency. Amends secs. 8312 & 8317 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.8312 & 324.8317).	4/24/2020	Referred to the Committee on Government Operations	Brant Iden	
House Bill	<a href="#">5808</a>	Crimes; animals; restitution for care and treatment of certain forfeited animals; impose penalty on ownership of animal to person convicted of certain crimes against animal. Amends sec. 50b of 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.50b).	5/20/2020	Referred to the Committee on Judiciary	Douglas Wozniak	
House Bill	<a href="#">5809</a>	Animals; care and treatment; restitution for care and treatment of certain forfeited animals; impose penalties upon owner. Amends sec. 50 of 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.50).	5/20/2020	Referred to the Committee on Judiciary	Douglas Wozniak	
House Bill	<a href="#">5504</a>	Drains; financing; assessment periods for projects and maintenance on drains; extend. Amends secs. 196 & 434 of 1956 PA 40 (MCL 280.196 & 280.434).	2/19/2020	Referred to the Committee on Local Government	James Lower	Support
House Bill	<a href="#">5905</a>	Animals; birds; regulations regarding the sport of racing and carrier pigeons; repeal. Repeals 1974 PA 57 (MCL 433.351 - 433.355).	6/24/2020	Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform	Matt Maddock	
House Bill	<a href="#">4860</a>	Animals; exotic; applicability of certain provisions of the large carnivore act based on residency; modify. Amends sec. 22 of 2000 PA 274 (MCL 287.1122).	1/15/20	Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means	Thomas Albert	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">971</a>	Animals; care and treatment; conducting of research or training activities on dogs in a manner that causes pain or distress, and certain related activities, by an affiliate of a public body; prohibit. Creates new act.	6/17/2020	Referred to the Committee on Judiciary	Michael McDonald	
House Bill	<a href="#">5445</a>	Public utilities; public service commission; registration procedure for electric vehicle charging stations; provide for. Creates new act.	2/19/2020	Referred to Ways and Means	Andrea Schroeder	Opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">4585</a>	Agriculture; other; fair and festival carnival safety partners program; provide for. Creates new act.	6/18/19	Reported from Regulatory Reform to the Committee of Ways and Means	Thomas Albert	Opposed
Senate Bill	<a href="#">982</a>	Occupations; individual licensing and registration; registration and training of seasonal registered pesticide applicator; provide for. Amends secs. 8306 & 8314 of 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.8306 & 324.8314).	6/24/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Kim LaSata	

House Bill	<a href="#">5126</a>	Drains; other; petition to add or remove lands and notice of receipt of bids and review of apportionments; revise requirements. Amends secs. 135 & 154 of <a href="#">1956 PA 40</a> (MCL <a href="#">280.135</a> & <a href="#">280.154</a> ).	7/23/2020	Referred to the Committee on Local Government	Steven Johnson	Support
House Bill	<a href="#">5890</a>	Food; meats; guidelines for meat cutting facilities; modify. Amends sec. 28a of <a href="#">1964 PA 283</a> (MCL <a href="#">290.628a</a> )	6/24/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Scott VanSingel	
House Bill	<a href="#">6009</a>	Animals: dogs; certain unnecessary medical procedures for dogs; prohibit. Creates new act.	8/9/2020	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Mari Manoogian	
House Bill	<a href="#">6044</a>	Labor: hours and wages; hazard pay for certain agriculture, farm, and seasonal workers during a declared emergency; provide for	8/12/2020	Referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism	Brian Elder	
House Bill	<a href="#">6054</a>	Taxation: farmland and open space; certain references in the farmland and open space preservation statute; make gender neutral. Amends sec. 36109 of <a href="#">1994 PA 451</a> (MCL <a href="#">324.36109</a> ).	8/12/2020	Referred to the Committee on Government Operations	Rebekah Warren	
House Bill	<a href="#">6068</a>	Agriculture: associations and commissions; certain references in the agricultural commodities marketing act; make gender neutral.	8/12/2020	Referred to the Committee on Government Operations	Sheryl Kennedy	
Senate Bill	<a href="#">1067</a>	Liquor: other; fund shift for the Michigan craft beverage council fund; provide for. Amends sec. 303a of <a href="#">1998 PA 58</a> (MCL <a href="#">436.1303a</a> ).	8/15/2020	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations	Kevin Hertel	