

### Goal 3: Mansfield is an effective regional leader for farm-friendliness

	Priority
<b>Strategy 3.1: The Town Council understands and declares that agriculture is essential to Mansfield and therefore municipal staff, boards and commissions are engaged and educated about the impact of their decisions on agriculture</b>	H
<b>A</b> Provide ongoing education municipal employees and committee members on the importance of agriculture in the community, the contributions it makes to the community, and why it is the Town's policy to support agriculture.	H
<b>B</b> Identify potential impacts of each department on agricultural viability (eg. where culverts are placed can impact usability of pasture) and educate staff accordingly.	Integrate with A in a concise statement
<b>C</b> Develop/understand the full range of value propositions related to agriculture to help communicate why agriculture is important to people who are focused on different priorities (highlight the role that agriculture plays in sustainability, economic development, tourism, etc.).	Move to goal 1
<b>D</b> Document current revenues and expenses on a land use basis through a Cost of Community Services (COCS) study. Even though people may know generally what a COCS study will show in Connecticut, it is important for some people to see the dollars and sense reality of the reduced services (and costs) for farmland.	Move to goal 1
<b>E</b> Have the agriculture committee give an annual presentation to all municipal employees and boards (similar to the 2010 presentation made by the Agriculture Committee to the Town Council).	Integrate with A in a concise statement
<b>Strategy 3.2: Farmers' voices are heard on a range of Town Commissions and Boards to bring the challenges and opportunities related to agriculture to the table</b>	M
<b>A</b> Allocate space for, and invite, farmers to serve on all relevant Town committees, commissions and boards such as, Commission on Community Quality of Life, Conservation Commission, Economic Development Commission, Clean Energy Team, Open Space Preservation Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Sustainability Committee, Town/University Relations Committee.	M
<b>B</b> Plan semiannual meetings at which representatives of each committee inform the actions being taken related to agriculture.	M
<b>Strategy 3.3: Integrate agriculture throughout the updated Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).</b>	H
<b>A</b> <del>The POCD provides the Town with an important opportunity to highlight the role and value of Agriculture in Mansfield</del>	
<b>B</b> Include an Agriculture section in the Plan of Conservation and Development that provides a summary of agriculture in Mansfield, context and the selected goals, strategies and actions.	H

### Goal 3: Mansfield is an effective regional leader for farm-friendliness

<b>C</b> Include agricultural information and goals in all of the relevant sections of the POCD, including, but not limited to, sustainability, economic development, natural resources and overall priorities of the Town.	H
<b>D</b> Include specific steps to address the needs of local farmers and the agricultural goals of the community with an implementation plan that assigns responsibility for each action.	H

	Priority
<b>Strategy 3.4:</b> Continually review and revise regulations, policies and incentives to support agricultural viability.	H
<b>A</b> Advocate for legislation and policies that support farming.	H
<b>B</b> <del>Update livestock ordinances (per Recommendations for Connecticut Municipal Zoning Regulations and Ordinances for Livestock.)</del>	
<b>C</b> <del>Ensure regulations support compatible commercial enterprises on farms and appropriate signage and parking for farm businesses.</del>	
<b>D</b> <del>Allow for infrastructure improvements (storage, farm stand, etc.) on town owned farmland</del>	
<b>E</b> <del>Ensure regulations that support farm energy issues highlighted in the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development First Annual Report</del>	
<b>F</b> Conduct annual outreach with farmers to identify any existing regulations that are impacting their agricultural viability	
<b>G.</b> Develop regulations that support and remove barriers to farm viability, including but not limited to, keeping of livestock, compatible farm businesses, signage, parking, housing for seasonal workers, hoop houses or other growing structures, horticulture	H
<b>Strategy 3.5:</b> Ensure farmers and landowners are aware of agriculture-related regulations, tax exemptions, conservation options, etc.	M
<b>A</b> Conduct annual outreach to all farmers and landowners to make sure they are aware of new and existing agriculture-related regulations, tax exemptions and conservation options and publish on Town website.	
<b>B</b>	