

Helping Local Farmers Grow

It is our 10th year of supporting local farmers with infrastructure improvements. Thanks to the support of our three lead partners, (Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation, Big Y, and the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture) and 15 community funders, 100 farms in the four counties of Western Massachusetts received Local Farmer Awards, a record for us. Here are some examples of the capital improvements being made on local farms:

Replacement Farm Gates and Posts for a grass-fed lamb farm on 200 acres in Leyden will help keep the livestock safe from predators and allow the farmers to easily enter the fields for feeding.

Hoops for Heat will aid a BIPOC-led urban farm in Springfield by keeping their crops covered early in the season allowing for season extension through unpredicted weather variances.

Reusable Harvest Bins and Cart will allow the farmer at a young vegetable farm in Great Barrington to streamline the harvesting process meaning fewer trips to and from the wash station. Additionally, the bins will aid in transporting the vegetables to the farmers market.

The Local Farmer Awards is delighted to have helped fill financial gaps for farm capital needs by investing over \$1.5 million to date in our agricultural ecosystem.

Ten Years of Impact ...

HELPED 306 INDIVIDUAL LOCAL FARMS GROW

SUPPORTED 672 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



<image>

Superhutches for Post-Weaned Calfs (2023 Award) Bree-Z-Knoll Farm, Leyden, MA

Top photo: Greenhouse Improvements (2023 Award), Full Well Farm, Adams, MA

2024 - OUR TENTH YEAR OF SUPPORTING LOCAL FARMERS

100 Awards, 199 Applications, 42 First-Time Applicants

Learn about the 2024 Winners



Years in Business

from newer to established farms

YEARS IN BUSINESS



Location in Western Massachusetts



Variety of Agricultural Products

The majority of farms diversify with multiple products, the most prevalent are vegetables and meat

VEGETABLES · MILK · CHEESE · EGGS · MAPLE · MEAT · POULTRY FRUIT · FLOWERS · HAY · HONEY · VALUE-ADDED · AND MORE

Most Common Capital Purchases Made Possible by Local Farmer Award Grants

Necessary infrastructure improvements help with planting, growing, harvesting, and processing

PLANTING/SEEDING EQUIPMENT · LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT TRACTOR IMPLEMENTS · HARVESTING EQUIPMENT STRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS · MAPLE EQUIPMENT FENCING · SOIL HEALTH & RESTORATION

Total Cost of Improvement Projects

Farmer Contribution averaged 44% (well above the required 10%)





2024 AWARD WINNERS

Franklin County =

- Big River Chestnuts Chestnut Cleaning & Heat Treatment Tank System
- Bostrom Farm (K.L.Bostrom Farm LLC) Milkroom to Micro-creamery
- Boulder Top Farm
 High Tunnel Greenhouse Upgrade
- Boyden Bros. Maple Increase Sap Storage Capacity
- Bree-Z-Knoll Farm, LLC. Lab Equipment for On-Farm Creamery
- Coolidge Hill Farm Seedling Transplanter
- Crooked Trail Farm Upgrade Egg Washing Systems
- D.A. Smiarowski Farms Asparagus Packing Line Conveyor System

Hampden County =

- Buzz Off Bee Co. Honey Extraction Equipment
- Dusty Goat Farm Living Foods Additional Racks & Lights
- Ellison Farms Beef Convert Hayland to Pasture

Hampshire County

- Amherst Nurseries
 Planter
- Astarte Farm Overhead Irrigation for Germination & Yield
- Bardwell Farm Vegetable Harvest Conveyor
- Bashista Orchards Pruning Tools
- Breezy Acres Greenhouse and Garden Walk Behind Brush Hog Mower
- Cultivating for Community/ Food Bank Farm Cultivating for Community
- Deere Creek Farm LLC

 Livestock Pasture Expansion
- Flowerwork Farm Season Extension & Climate Resiliency
- * Four Corners Farm Grindstone Root Crop Washer

- Dar-Ridge Farm Round Bale Wagon
- Everyday Farm Grain Bin for Laying Hens
 Fern Hill Farm
- BCS Tractor
- Foxtrot Farm Equipment for Cost Savings & Climate Resilience
- Good Bunch Farm Trellis System to Support Peas & Pole Beans
- Gothic Top Farm
 Grain Handling/Storage Upgrades
- Hager's Farm Market LLC Update Fruit/Veggie Storage & Aligning w/GAP & FDA
- Hillside Farm Reusable Harvest Bins & Cart
- Hives to Home
 Honey Processing Efficiency Improvement
- Ferrindino Maple, LLC. Bulk Maple Syrup Strorage
- Gardening the Community Hoops for Heat
- Kelso Homestead Blueberries Enabling Succession to a 10th Generation Farm
- Kosinski Farms Adaptive Cultivation
- to Increase Production
- Front Yard Farm
 Power Harrow to Increase Soil Health
- Golden Goose Geoponics Grassfed Cattle Fencing
 Hickory Hill Farm
- 3 Point Hitch Tractor Logging Winch Hukowicz Farm
- No-Till Fertilizer Attachment
- J & J Farms Electric Pallet Jack
- Joe Czajkowski Farm LLC Frost Protection for Strawberries
- Kelley Farm Upgrading Harvesting Totes
- La Arecibena Torres Family Farm Tractor Plastic Mulch Layer Attachment & Tools
- Little Bend Flower Farm Greenhouse For Cold Season

- Leyden Glen Farm Replacement of Farm Gates & Posts
- Lombrico LLC
 Cover Crop Flail Mower for Reduced Tillage
- Meadowsweet Farm Brooder House/Equipment
 Mycoterra Farm
- Compost Spreader for No-Till Market Garden
- Natural Roots Mascot Tri-Wheel Gang Reel Mower
- Oak Hollow Livestock
 Livestock Penning
- O'Brien Farm Auxiliary Hay Storage
- Quonquont Farm & Orchard Power Harrow for No-Till Seed Bed Preparation
- Red Fire Farm Improving Plant Tray Growing Efficiencies
- Nuestras Raices, Inc. Nuestra Comida CSA Expansion
- Pomeroy Farm
 Calf Housing Improvements
- Ray's Family Farm, Inc.
 Herb Greenhouse
- Rooted Flowers
 High Tunnel Automation:
 Agriculture Efficiency

Flower Overwintering

- Livingstone Mycology Air Filtration Unit for Sterile Mushroom Culture
- Love Leaf Farm LLC Three Bay Sink Sanitation Station
- Luther Belden Inc Newborn Calf Warmer
- Mayval Farm Whey Removal Pump
- Mountain View Farm Tilmor Mounted Tine Weeder
- Mountainside Maple Energy Saving Vacuum Pump Upgrade
- North Hadley Sugar Shack LLC Metal-panel Cattle Catch Pen with Gate
- Old Friends Farm High Tunnel Gantry System
- Outlook Farm Vegetable Production Seeder

- Roaming Farm Spring Harrow for Improved Nutrient Distribution
- Robariah Farms Constructing Mobile Chicken Coops
- The Kitchen Garden Precision Seeding Upgrade
- Thomas Farm Upgraded Goat Pens & Hay Feeders
- Tip Top Orchard Indoor & Outdoor Wash/Pack Stations
- Underline Farm Chicken Crates for Moving Birds Safely
- Windrow Farm Rotary Rake for More Efficient Hay Drying
- Windy Ridge Farm & Services
 Purchase of a Vacuum Seeder & Plates
- Stony Hill Farm LLC Paperpot Transplanter & Seeder
- The Petrie Family Farm Processing Station & Forest Farming Expansion
- Whale Rock Farms LLC Fabric Mulch for Melon Patch

Paul's Sugar House Sap Spy Sugarbush Monitoring System

- Pause & Pivot Farm Mobile Hydration Station for Chickens
- Quabbin Hill Farms Greenhouse Heating
- Rivershed Farm
 Flail Mower for Improved Cover
 Crop Management
- Sawmill Herb Farm Wash & Pack Outdoor Station
- Sawyer Farm Strip Tiller for Living Mulch Production
- Snowshoe Farm Maple Syrup Canning Unit
- Sweet Birch Herbals Greenhouse for Season Extension

Berkshire County =

- Ayrhill Farms, Inc. Tractor Mounted Rotary Tiller
- Bigfoot Farm Plant Propagation Tunnel
- Bittersweet Farm Access to Water & Electricity
- Caretaker Farm Climate Control for Winter Storage Crops
- Dancing Greens Farm
 Reusable Harvest Bins & Cart
- Forthill Farm Water Well for Irrigation
- Hidden Mountain Farm Improvements for Lambing
- Holiday Brook Farm Vacuum Monitoring System for a Maple Sugarbush
- Joshua's Farm Hay Tedder for Hay Harvesting
- Lion's Tooth Farm Paper Chain Pot System
- Musante Farm Honey Processing & Bottling House
 Olsen Farm LLC
- Raised Beds & Soil for Barren Land **Red Shirt Farm**
- Using Fertigation to Improve Tomato Profitability
- Stanton Home

New Trailer to Increase Composting Production

- Taft Farms New Stovetop to Maximize Value Added Efficiency
- The Farm New Marlborough Efficiency Begins with Traction
- Woodlife Ranch
 Deer Exclusion Fence Project

The 2024 Local Farmer Awards are Generously Funded by:

