Farming in Androscoggin County?

Here is a directory of government resources that assist Maine farms

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) is Maine’s largest natural resource agency. It supports Maine’s land-based, natural resource interests, including: agriculture, forests, outdoor recreation and public-access. Four Bureaus: Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources; Forestry; Parks and Lands; and Resource Information and Land Use Planning, perform a wide range of duties from protecting the food safety, stopping forest fires and mapping the ocean floor; to keeping our parks and public lands pristine and accessible, planning wise land utilization, and helping beginning farmers.

The Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, has three Divisions: Agricultural Resource Development; Animal and Plant Health; Quality Assurance and Regulation - as well as the Maine Milk Commission, Maine Harness Racing Commission and Maine Board of Pesticide Control. The back of this page includes department contact information. Contact information for many other local, state and federal agencies that serve most of Maine’s agricultural businesses is also included.

This directory is updated annually by the Division of the Agricultural Resource Development (ARD). ARD’s mission is to encourage agricultural development and sustainability through education, annual industry events, technical assistance, research, economic development and environmental stewardship of Maine’s existing and future farm businesses. ARD:

- **Assists** agricultural businesses with market development and promotion, business development and planning, labor, farmland protection, and foreign trade assistance.
- **Oversees** several grant and loan programs that help producers adopt new technology, conduct market research, and/or promote new products.
- **Coordinates** the Maine Agricultural Trades Show in January and sponsors or promotes other special agricultural events throughout the year, like Open Farm Day and local agricultural fairs.
- **Administers** Maine Senior FarmShare and The Emergency Food Assistance Program.

  - **Sells** "get real. get Maine!" promotional materials that help farmers and food producers market their Maine made and branded products.
  - **Maintains** getrealmaine.com the free promotional website to help farmers and food producers better share their stories and perspectives about Maine agriculture with their communities. The website helps visitors learn more about the importance of Maine’s farms and why Maine grown and raised foods are valuable and of high quality.

**Please stay in touch!** Visit [http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/index.shtml](http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/index.shtml) and sign up to receive DACF electronic newsletters and agricultural resource updates and event announcements!
KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCY CONTACTS FOR AGRICULTURE IN ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY

Androscoggin Valley Soil & Water Conservation District
254 Goddard Road
Lewiston, ME 04240-1000
207-753-9400, X 3
• Jocelyn Lahey, Administrative Assistant
  jlahey@maineconservationdistricts.com
  https://www.androscogginswcd.org/

STATE of MAINE
Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
22 State House Station 207-287-3200
Augusta, ME 04333
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  287-3491
Agricultural Resource Development - 287-3491
Animal and Plant Health - 287-3891
Board of Pesticides Control - 287-2731
Quality Assurance & Regulations Quality - 287-3841

University of Maine Cooperative Extension
24 Main Street
Lisbon Falls, ME 04252-1505
207-353-5550
• Tori Jackson, Extension Educator Associate
  Professor of Agriculture and Natural Resources
  tori.jackson@maine.edu
  https://extension.umaine.edu/androscoggin-sagadahoc/

Maine Small Business Development Centers
Maine SBDC at AVCOG
125 Manley Road
Auburn, ME 04210
207-783-9186
• Jane Mickeriz, Certified Business Advisor
  jmickeriz@avcog.org
  http://www.mainesbdc.org

New Ventures Maine
NVME, LAC – Lewiston
51-55 Westminster Street
Lewiston, ME 04240
(207) 753-6622
• Cathy Collins, Administrative Specialist
  catherine.e.collins@maine.edu
  http://newventuresmaine.org/find-a-center-2/western/

Maine Forest Service  http://www.aboutmywoods.org/index.html
Maine Secretary of State - Small Business Resources  http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/corp/smallbusiness.html
USDA New Farmers Website  https://newfarmers.usda.gov/

FEDERAL

United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency (FSA)
254 Goddard Road
Lewiston, ME 04240-1000
207-753-9400 x 2
• Marcia Hall, County Executive Director
  marcia.hall@me.usda.gov
  http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
254 Goddard Rd.
Lewiston, ME 04240-1000
207-753-9400 x 3
• Jim Johnson, District Conservationist
  jim.johnson@me.usda.gov
• Terri Teller, Soil Conservationist
  terri.teller@me.usda.gov
• Rebecca Long, Soil Conservationist
  rebecca.long@me.usda.gov
  http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/me/contact/local/

Rural Development Area Office
254 Goddard Road
Lewiston, ME 04240-1000
207-753-9400 x 5357
• Bobbi Crooker, Area Director
  bobbi.crooker@me.usda.gov
  http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ME_Home.html

United States Small Business Administration & SCORE
SCORE Androscoggin County Chapter
125 Manley Road
Auburn, ME 04210
207-782-3708
https://androscoggincounty.score.org/