



Think about what attracts you to Marshfield....its beauty, its beaches, its community and its open space.

Despite the fact that Marshfield has become more residential, its roots are in farming and that continues today throughout the town.

**Through thoughtfulness, understanding, tolerance, and communication, farmers and neighbors can help each other.**

### **Farmers' Concerns**

Keeping fencing and gates in good condition and secure helps animals, and humans, remain safe and at home.

Farmers want their fields, crops and animals to be healthy and to thrive. They worry that people, with the best of intentions, will feed items to their livestock, including fingers. Please don't feed the animals.

Sometimes farming includes noise, dust, odors and operating at odd times of the day or night.

Farmers work to minimize their impact on neighbors.



### **Neighbors' Concerns**

Farms can be beautiful, and animals cute, but there are many hazards associated with a farm, especially for children and pets. Neighbors should check with farmers and landowners before going for a walk, hike, or ride on or near a farm.

Keeping pets restrained assures safety for both the pets and farm animals. It is always best for neighbors to keep their own animals away from the farm.

Neighbors want farms to thrive.

### **Did You Know?**



The law gives a person handling a farm animal (including on horseback) the right of way on roads or trails whether they are riding, walking, or loading. Stopping is both courteous and lawful and will be greatly appreciated and remembered.

Farmers have the right to operate their farm equipment both on the land and on the road at any hour.



Photo by Chris D. Bernstein

Learn about agriculture in your town; be better informed.



### **Benefits of Agriculture**

Agricultural businesses conserve land and the rural character of our town, while retaining open space.

Spending at local farms is reinvested within our community, is sustainable, and keeps our economy going.

Local farms participate in the Marshfield Farmers' Market, bringing you fresh food and consumer direct agricultural products.

It's fun to pick your own fruits and vegetables. Some Marshfield farms offer Pick Your Own during harvest season.



### **Right To Farm By-Law**

The Right to Farm by-law encourages the pursuit of agriculture, protects farmlands, and promotes agriculture-based economic opportunities within the Town of Marshfield by allowing agricultural uses and related activities to function with minimal conflict with abutters and Town Agencies.

This by-law applies to all jurisdictional areas within Marshfield.

The Right to Farm by-law reinforces for all current and future citizens of Marshfield that we cherish the right to farm here, continuing the traditions established by Daniel Webster and our founding families.

## How you can support agriculture in Marshfield

Buy local farm products at farmers' markets, farm stands, garden centers, and grocery stores.

Attend Town Meetings and vote in favor of articles that support and encourage farming, farmland and agricultural economic development.

Volunteer to help. The Marshfield Agricultural Commission is a non-profit organization and your time and/or donation of services are valuable.

Educate yourself. You live in an agricultural town. Learn about farming and farm practices by meeting your farmer neighbors; learning what they grow and/or raise, understand issues that affect them every day.



## The Marshfield Agricultural Commission

The mission of the Marshfield Agricultural Commission is to represent the Town's agricultural community and interests. Activities of the Agricultural Commission include the following:

- Serving as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Marshfield.
- Promoting agricultural-based economic opportunities in the town.
- Acting as advocates, educators and/or negotiators in an advisory capacity on farming issues for established town committees and departments.
- Pursuing all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community.
- Encouraging the pursuit of agriculture as a career opportunity and lifestyle.

Marshfield Agricultural Commission via the town website [www.townofmarshfield.org](http://www.townofmarshfield.org) or

Lorrie Gampp Dahlen, Chair  
(781) 834-4524



# Living Near a FARM



## Farms and Neighbors, a guide

*Presented by the  
Marshfield Agricultural  
Commission*



Marshfield Agricultural Commission Fans



@MarshfieldAgCom

[www.townofmarshfield.org](http://www.townofmarshfield.org)