Is Your Community Farm Friendly?
A Checklist to Gauge Local Support for Agriculture in Your Community

**Does Your Community…**

**Prioritize natural resource conservation**
...have policies or regulations to support access to water for food production (e.g., traditional agriculture, urban agriculture, and/or community gardens)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...have policies to address food waste and recovery (through strategies such as composting, gleaning programs, and/or food product recycling programs)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

**Encourage agriculture and food production**
...have a section on agriculture and food production in your comprehensive plan or other community plans (e.g., economic development, strategic, or sustainability plan)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...support agricultural leadership (e.g., an agricultural ombudsman, advisory board, or commission to represent farmers and ranchers in local decision making)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...provide public land for farming and food production (e.g., lease land to farmers, provide space for community gardens or urban agriculture)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...encourage connections between agriculture and residents (e.g., through agritourism, direct marketing, and/or promotion of local farms)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

**Protect farmland**
...create agricultural protection zones specifically to support working farms and ranches?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...purchase conservation easements (development rights) on agricultural land?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...have urban growth boundaries?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...have a transfer of development rights program or mitigation ordinance to engage private developers in protection activities?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

**Improve agricultural viability**
...have a local right-to-farm ordinance?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...provide tax credits and exemptions (e.g., property tax relief, school tax credits, sales tax exemptions)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...have ordinances to support agriculture and food production (e.g., accessory use allowances, farm labor housing policies, setbacks and buffers, on-farm processing)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...create voluntary districts where agriculture is encouraged and protected?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...have livestock regulations to address nuisance, environment, and welfare issues (e.g., regulate number of animals per acre, manure and nutrient management)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

**Support markets and infrastructure**
...have regulations scaled appropriately to address on-farm marketing and direct-to-consumer systems (e.g., agritourism, CSAs, farm and roadside stands)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...support marketing infrastructure for local farmers (e.g., farmers markets, food hubs)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...support value-added processing (e.g., slaughter facilities, cold storage, packing sheds)?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...support farm to school and other institutions’ procurement policies?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

**Promote local farms**
...have a “Buy Local” campaign?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

...provide promotion materials such as maps, resource guides, and interactive websites?

- [ ] YES  [ ] NO

Adapted from New Hampshire Coalition for Sustaining Agriculture and UNH Cooperative Extension’s “Is Your Town Farm Friendly? — A Checklist for Sustaining Rural Character”