

# Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

September 2016



**Fall is coming! Time to REAP the benefits.**

The Massachusetts Farm Energy Program is hosting a REAP workshop this month, ahead of the November 2nd submission deadline. Come in person, or call into the webinar, to learn what this program can do for you!

**Date:** Wednesday, September 21st

**Time:** 10:00am

**In Person:** EcoBuilding Bargains, 83 Warwick St. Springfield, MA 01104

**Webinar:** Please use this link to join online: [Massachusetts Farm Energy Program Webinar](#)

Or, you can dial in using your phone: 872-240-3412; access code 398-348-925

If you are interested in attending in person, please call Megan at 413-727-3090, or e-mail her at [megan.denardo@cetonline.org](mailto:megan.denardo@cetonline.org), to register.



Fall at Full Bloom Market Garden in Whately

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### **Tomatoes and Savings, Both Ripe for the Picking**

The Massachusetts Farm Energy Program has funds to help farms cover audits, energy efficiency projects, and select renewable energy projects. Contact us for more information, or to get started now!

Phone: 413-727-3090 • E-mail: [info@massfarmenergy.com](mailto:info@massfarmenergy.com)

or

Visit our website: [www.massfarmenergy.com](http://www.massfarmenergy.com) and submit a [Request Form](#)



Ripe tomatoes at Natural Roots in Conway

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## News & Events

### Send Us Your Photos!

Would you like to see your farm featured in our newsletter? Send us your pictures, especially of any projects you've done or actions you've taken to increase energy efficiency, and you could see them here! Pictures can be sent to [megan.denardo@cetonline.org](mailto:megan.denardo@cetonline.org). Show other farmers across Massachusetts what you're doing to save energy, and maybe inspire others to do the same!

### CISA Events

CISA is hosting a plethora of exciting events and workshops in September, including Stalking Wild Mushrooms, Beekeeping, and a Chicken and Waffles Dinner! For the full list and more details, [visit their events page](#).



## Grant Information & Deadlines

### Rural Energy For America Program (REAP)

The next REAP deadline for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency grants and loan guarantees is November 2nd, 2016 for grants of **\$20,000 or less only**. For more information on applying, [click here](#).

### REAP Application Assistance

Need help preparing your REAP application? The [Massachusetts Farm Energy Program](#) is able to assist! Our program is able to help farms prepare their REAP applications at no cost. But don't wait until the deadline approaches; REAP applications can be submitted any time, so [contact us now!](#) Or, attend our workshop on September 21st to get all the details.

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## Spotlight on: Ferrindino Farms



Maple Syrup at Ferrindino Farms, Hampden. Photo by Ben Coe.



This past spring, Ferrindino Farms in Hampden contacted the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program for help upgrading their maple sugaring operation. MFEP helped fund their energy audit, which determined that installing a reverse osmosis machine and high efficiency evaporator would save 22 cords of wood and over \$5,000 per year.

Armed with this information, and with the help of MFEP staff, the Ferrindinos applied for both an MDAR Agricultural Energy Grant and a REAP Grant to fund the installation. Awardees of both grants should be announced soon, so watch this space for updates!

If your farm is in need of an audit, has a project in mind, or you would like help identifying potential funding sources or writing applications, call the Massachusetts Farm Energy Program at 413-727-3090, and you could see your own smiling face in a future newsletter!



Jerry Ferrindino in front of his sugarhouse in Hampden. Photo by Ben Coe.

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## Take Steps Today to Save Energy and Money! Here's how:

1. Learn about what's most applicable to your operation. Check out our [Best Management Practices](#) online.
2. Have an energy audit to determine the best, most cost-effective measures for your farm. An energy audit helps determine potential savings and worthwhile investments.
3. Install recommended efficient, cost effective measures. Begin with low and no-cost measures, and don't forget annual maintenance.
4. Get funding. Before you install measures, be sure to get information about grants and financial incentives available to help with cost effective improvements, including renewable energy.
5. Enjoy your savings!

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