

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT 28 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

WALTER E. WHITCOMB COMMISSIONER

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 and sign up to receive DACF electronic newsletters and agricultural resource updates and event announcements!

JESSICA NIXON
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491 FAX: (207) 287-5576 WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

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

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/index.shtml

Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources 287-3491

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ag/index.shtml

Agricultural Resource Development - 287-3491

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/ard/index.shtml

Animal and Plant Health - 287-3891

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/index.shtml

Board of Pesticides Control - 287-2731

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/pesticides/applicators/licensing.html

Quality Assurance & Regulations Quality - 287-3841

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/licensing/index.html

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 <u>catherine.e.collins@maine.edu</u>

http://newventuresmaine.org/find-a-center-2/western/

FEDERAL

<u>United States Department of Agriculture</u>

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 <u>bobbi.crooker@me.usda.gov</u>
 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/

Beginning Farmer Resource Network of Maine https://extension.umaine.edu/beginning-farmer-resource-network/
Maine Forest Service https://extension.umaine.edu/beginning-farmer-resource-network/

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/