



# HELP PROTECT OUR FARMLAND FOR FARMERS

**F**arming has always been at the heart of the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. But that way of life is more at risk than ever, thanks to rising land prices and aggressive residential development. Now, the agricultural conservation easements that were put in place to safeguard farmland for our farmers are coming under attack.

The Sharon Land Trust is working to hold the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) accountable for enforcing an agricultural easement that was supposed to protect fields once owned by local farmer Morris Paley. In 1984, Paley wanted to ensure that his family property would be used for agriculture for generations to come. The state used our tax dollars to pay for an easement restricting development, so that it could stay farmland forever. But today that protected land is being developed for a large private residence.

It's not the only one. DoAg has also approved the construction of a similar private residence on another historic Sharon farm with a similar easement from the 1980s. There are many others at risk across CT. **We believe that DoAg has a duty to enforce these easements. Otherwise, our local farmers will be priced out of the land that was meant for them, and we will fail to honor our commitments to the farmers who were on the vanguard of conservation 40 years ago.**

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

### Your support is crucial.

#### There are many ways to take action together.

Sign and share our online petition.  
You can find it at:

[www.change.org/ProtectCTFarms](http://www.change.org/ProtectCTFarms)

#### Online petition:



#### Write, call or email DoAg.

Express your support for the preservation of the historic Paley Farm and urge it to uphold the agricultural easement on this property, as well as all the others.

#### Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt

Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 701  
Hartford, CT 06103

**PHONE: (860) 713-2501**

**EMAIL: [Bryan.hurlburt@ct.gov](mailto:Bryan.hurlburt@ct.gov)**

#### Write, call or email Governor Ned Lamont, State Representative Maria Horn, and State Senator Stephen Harding.

Ask them to advocate for the protection of Paley Farm, and to press DoAg to retract its approval of the proposed construction.

#### Governor Ned Lamont

Office of the Governor  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

**PHONE: (860) 566-4840**

**CONTACT: [portal.ct.gov/governor/contact/email-governor-lamont](http://portal.ct.gov/governor/contact/email-governor-lamont)**

#### Contact Governor Lamont:



#### State Representative Maria Horn

Legislative Office Building, Rm 3704  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

**PHONE: (860) 240-8585**

**EMAIL: [Maria.Horn@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Maria.Horn@cga.ct.gov)**

#### State Senator Stephen Harding

Legislative Office Building, Rm 3400  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

**PHONE: (860) 240-8800**

**EMAIL: [Stephen.Harding@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Stephen.Harding@cga.ct.gov)**

Go to [Sharonlandtrust.org/protectfarms](http://Sharonlandtrust.org/protectfarms) to find letter templates, contact information, and more ways to help.

**Together, we can keep our corner of  
Connecticut farmer-friendly!**



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