TOWN OF GROTON

Board of Health & Agricultural Commission
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION RIGHT TO FARM
Chapter 137 of the Code of the Town of Groton

It is the policy of this community to conserve, protect and encourage the maintenance and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food and other agricultural products, and also for its natural and ecological value. This disclosure notification is to inform buyers or occupants that the property they are about to acquire lies within a town where farming activities occur. Such farming activities may include, but not limited to, activities that cause noise, dust and odors. Buyers or occupants are also informed that the location of the property within the Town maybe impacted by commercial agricultural operations including the ability to access water services for such property under certain circumstances. Additionally, buyers or occupants shall be informed that the use of all motorized vehicles shall be prohibited from traveling over any farm without the written permission of the landowner.

STABLE LICENSE
Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Section 155

No person shall erect, occupy or use for a stable any building in a city, or in a town having more than five thousand (5,000) inhabitants, unless such use is licensed by the Board of Health, and, in such case, only to the extent so licensed. The fee for such licenses shall be established in a town by town meeting action and in a city by city council, and in a town with no town meeting by town council action, by adoption of appropriate by-laws and ordinances to set such fees, but in no event shall any such fee be greater than forty dollars. This section shall not prevent any such occupation and use authorized by law on May fourth, eighteen hundred and ninety five, to the extent and by the person so authorized, but the Board of Health of such a city or town may make such regulations or orders as, in its judgment, the public health requires relative to drainage, ventilation, size and character of stalls, bedding, number of animals and storage and handling of manure in any stable in its city or town.

From the Groton Agricultural Commission:

Why do I get a copy of this law every year? The Right to Farm is a Massachusetts law that has been adopted into our local bylaws. We are a vibrant farm community with open fields and local eats. We have Christmas trees, cattle, horses, goats, eggs, herbs, vegetables, turkeys, lumber, alpacas and honey all grown right here in Town. Your Groton Agricultural Commission is putting together an online farm directory for Groton Farms. We are also creating an email list for local farm issues, bylaw changes and local health alerts. If you are interested in helping or having your farm listed or listing farm availability please feel free to contact Town Hall for information.

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2021 GROTON BOARD OF HEALTH
Stable License

Owner's Name (Please Print): _____

Stable Manager's Name: _____

Address: _____Phone: _____

Species of Animals (i.e. horse, goat, pigs, etc.):

1. _____ 4. _____
2. _____ 5. _____
3. _____ 6. _____

Signature: _____

Please return form by <u>May 1, 2021</u> to: Groton Board of Health, 173 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450

or call 978-448-1120 with any questions

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Section 155 (see above)