

## **Williamsburg Agricultural Commission Survey of Williamsburg Farms**

The Williamsburg Agricultural Commission is sending you this survey in order to compile a list of active farm and forest producers in Williamsburg. This will allow the Agricultural Commission to better serve the interests of farmers and agricultural/forest landowners in our community. Another purpose of this survey is to assist the Williamsburg Farmers Market committee in developing a weekly farmers market in town (described below). We believe it is in all of our interests to enable a robust market for local farm and forest products. We wish to see people who are working on the land continue to do so. If you produce agricultural or forest products and/or if you own forest or agricultural land in Williamsburg, please help us by taking a few minutes to complete and return the enclosed survey **by February 28<sup>th</sup> 2011**.

### **Williamsburg Farmers' Market**

This winter, a group of local farmers and community leaders has working to develop farmers' market in Williamsburg. Farmers' markets in neighboring towns are flourishing and have large waiting lists for new vendors. The Williamsburg Farmers' Market is intended to provide a sales venue for local farmers, to offer people in Williamsburg and the surrounding Hilltowns access to local farm and forest products, and to present opportunities for community building and information sharing. The market is envisioned as an open-air marketplace where people can buy various food items, plants, cut flowers, and wood products supplied by local and regional vendors. The center of Williamsburg is a good location for the farmers' market and should also attract customers to established Williamsburg businesses.

The proposed site for the market is on the Mill River side of the Meekins Library lawn. The market would occur on **Thursdays from 3-7 p.m. from May-October** (closing hours may vary seasonally) and would have 8 - 10 vendors in attendance.

In March, a Farmer's Market committee will solicit applications from local producers interested in selling farm or forest products **that they produce** at the Williamsburg Farmer's Market. Efforts will be made to prioritize and support Williamsburg producers, although acceptance into the market will be based upon a number of factors in order to provide a balanced market. Most vendors would be asked to make a commitment for the season, though we also plan to have rotating or drop-in spaces for vendors of products with limited seasonality or very small farms. Vendors must be equipped to adhere to food safety guidelines as specified by the Board of Health, and must have liability insurance.

If you are a farm or forest owner/ operator in Williamsburg, please respond to the following questions and return the survey to:

Williamsburg Agricultural Commission  
c/o Melissa Adams  
29 South Street  
Williamsburg, MA 01096

A copy of this survey is also available at [www.burgy.org](http://www.burgy.org) and can be emailed to: [melissaadams4@comcast.net](mailto:melissaadams4@comcast.net).

# Williamsburg Farmers Survey

Please respond by February 28, 2011

Name of Owner/Operator:

Name of Farm (if any):

Address:

Email:

Website (if applicable):

## **SURVEY QUESTIONS:**

1. Do you own or use land in Williamsburg that is currently in active agricultural or forest production? If so how many acres are in production?
2. Do you sell any farm or forest products produced on this land? Yes    No  
If yes, please list products:
3. Where do you sell or have you sold your farm/ forest products?
4. Would you be interested in selling your farm or forest products at a new Thursday afternoon Williamsburg Farmer's Market? Yes    No  
  
If no, please explain why not.  
If yes, please explain what product(s) you would wish to sell.
5. Do you have any suggestions or input to help contribute to the successful development of a new Farmer's Market in Williamsburg?
6. How could the Agricultural Commission serve your needs?

Thank you for your time and input!