

# ACCESS TO LAND FOR NEW ENGLAND'S BEGINNING FARMERS: PHASE 3

## Land Access Project

Phase Three



Shemariah Blum-Evitts, farmer and regional planner, Land For Good's Program Director leads key LAP3 activities.



Ben Wells-Tolley will carry on a milk and cheese tradition after Land For Good facilitated a successful transfer of Chase Hill Farm (MA).



Abby Sadauckas of Apple Creek Farm (ME) joins Land For Good as Maine Field Agent.

Land For Good

Gaining ground for farmers

## INTRODUCTION

Land access is a top challenge for beginning farmers (BFs); land transfer is a USDA/ BFRDP statutory priority. The long-term goal of this standard project is for more New England BFs to successfully access land to start or expand their farm businesses. The past achievements of our regional approach and strong reliance on collaboration have resulted in many successful outcomes and a strong foundation to move forward. The Land Access Project, Phase 3 (LAP3, 2018-21) will improve and expand services to help BFs access farmland in each New England state, addressing key gaps identified by BFs and service providers.

## IMPACT

Over 200 BFs access land or achieve more secure tenure

Outcomes:

150 farmers make informed land access decisions

100 farmers trained on succession planning

200 professionals educated on access & transfer

900 farmers educated on succession planning

1,600 farmers learn land access strategies

5,500 farmers receive educational resources

## PARTNERS

Six state partners:



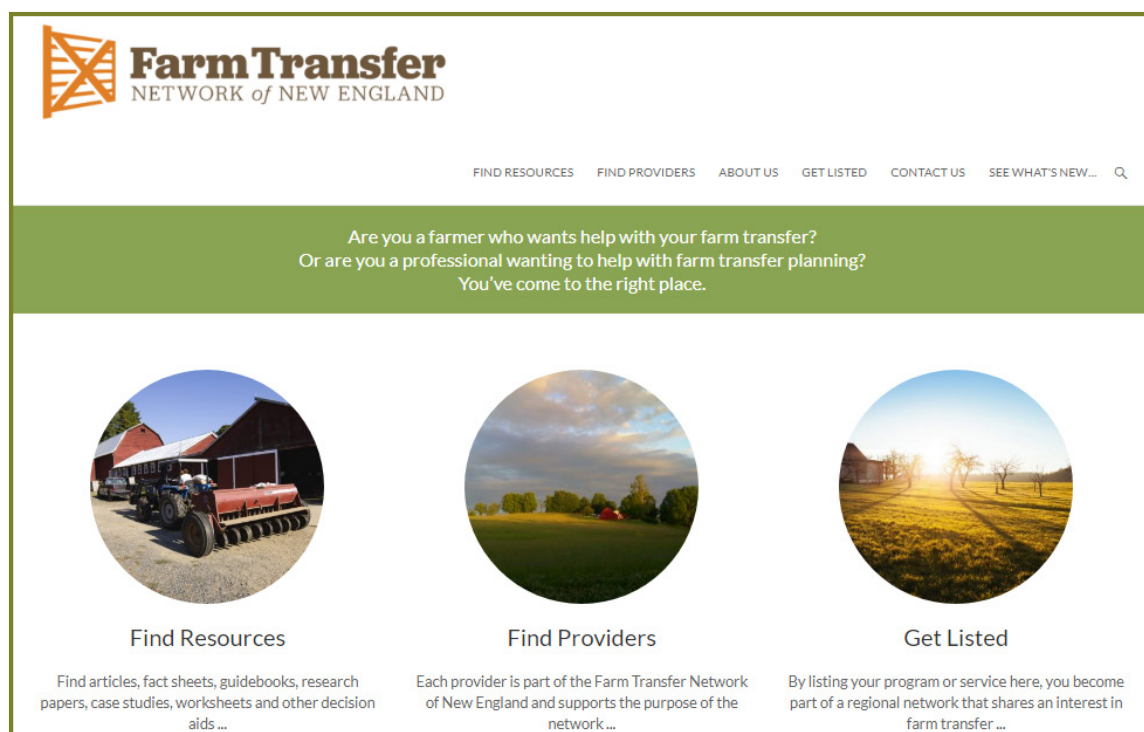
...plus 13 additional collaborators.



PD Jim Habana Hafner,  
Executive Director,  
Land For Good

NIFA Award # 2018-02919

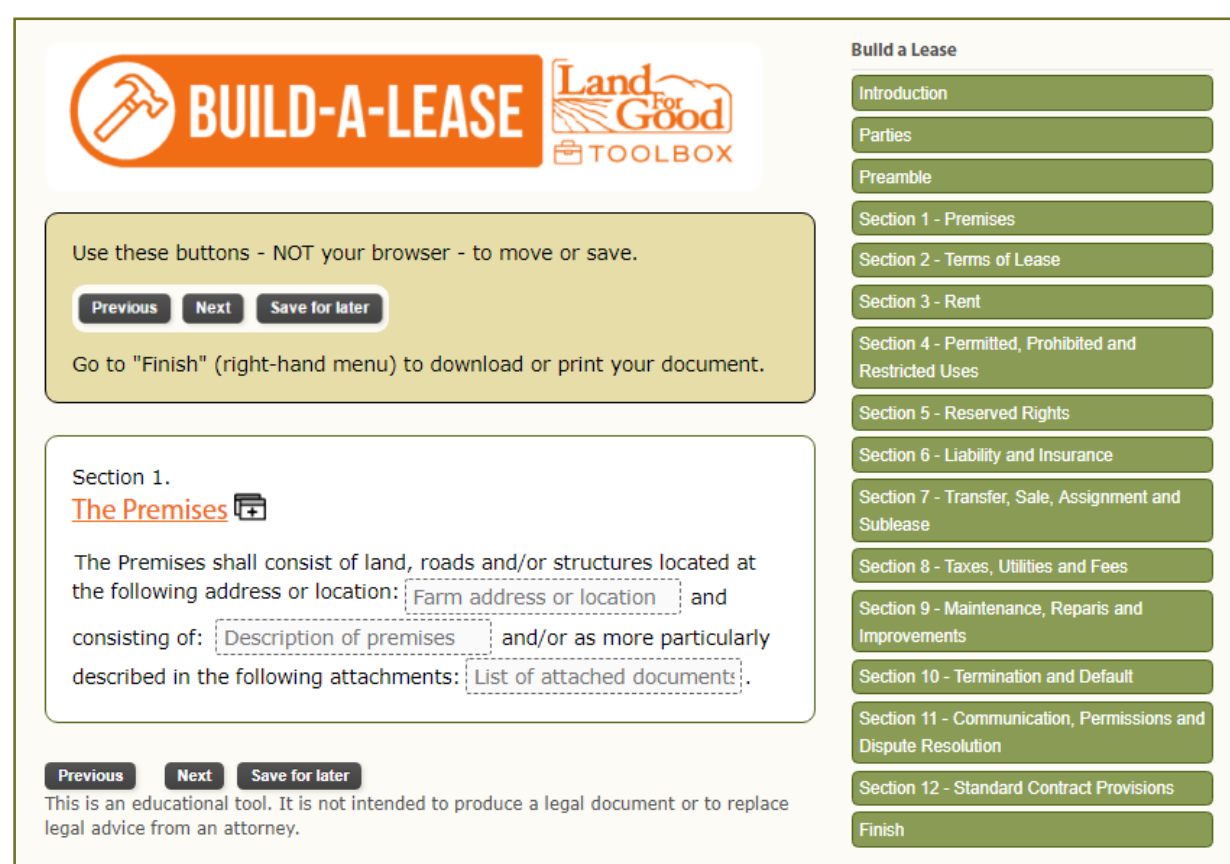
## ACTIVITIES & TOOLS



Farm Transfer Network of New England website will continue to add service provider listings and resources for professionals and farmers.



Acquiring Your Farm tutorial will educate and train hundreds of BFs through lessons supported by stories.



Build-A-Lease tool will educate BFs and landowners about farm leases and generate working lease documents.

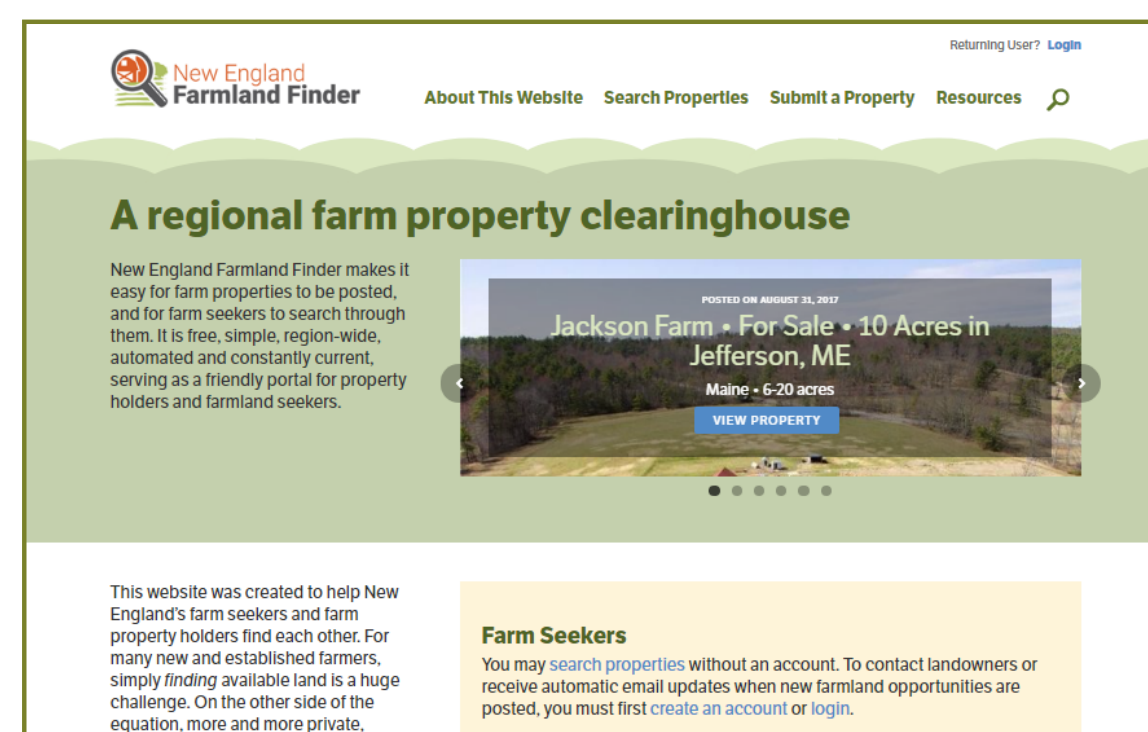


A farmer panel discusses how land access and succession conditions change, and the need for team-based assistance to plan for these transitions.

## TRAINING & ADVISING

Collaborators will plan, host, promote, and deliver **60 land access workshops and mixers**, and **six Farm Succession Schools**. We will develop and pilot more rigorous and targeted protocols to better advise BFs seeking secure land tenure, and coach transitioning farmers (TFs) to complete farm transfer plans. We will create tools that help TFs mentor their BF successors and transfer management to the next generation.

## FARM LINKING



New England Farmland Finder website will be refined based on user evaluation. New content and features will connect users with more farm properties, services and resources.



New England Farm Link Collaborative will make more farm properties available and visible to BFs through the members' farm link websites.

## Nationally...

Farm Link Clinic (2019) will be held for established and emerging farm linking programs across the US. Linking programs generate a lot of interest. Many sprout up, but they struggle to gain traction, sustain activities and deliver expected results. Professionals will learn, share and problem solve to improve programs. To date, 15+ programs have pledged participation.