

# CITIZENS FOR SUNNY ROCK FARM



## *Project Summary*

The Citizens for Sunny Rock Farm, in partnership with The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and the Town of Walpole, have the opportunity to purchase the 74-acre Sunny Rock Farm located on North Street. TPL has entered into an agreement with the Buttimer Family Trust providing the Town the opportunity to acquire the property for farming, playing fields, recreation, and open space.

Sunny Rock was a beloved center of local farming in the community, offering agricultural products, milk in glass bottles, fresh eggs, holiday pies, Christmas trees, and hayrides. It was home to a local 4-H Club, which housed goats, sheep, and rabbits on the farm and provided opportunities for families to visit and care for the animals. Sunny Rock has lain dormant for more than 12 years, and the Citizens for Sunny Rock are working with TPL and the Town to acquire and preserve this beloved farm.

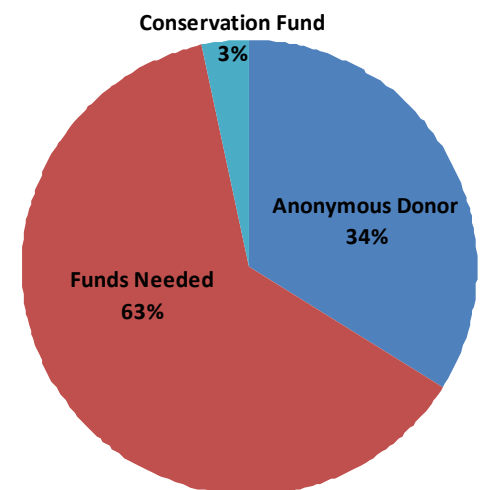
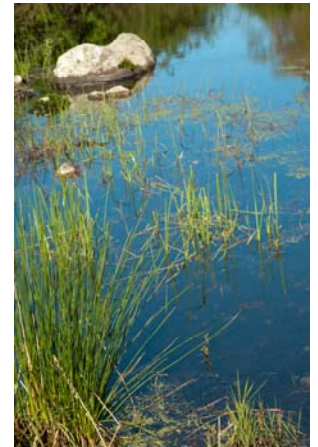
## *Project Benefits*

**Agriculture** Acquiring Sunny Rock and securing a lease with a farmer can bring back a supply of safe, fresh, and diversified food for the community, Walpole Food Pantry, Walpole Public Schools, and local restaurants. A working farm is beneficial to the local economy, using and providing local goods, employing year-round workers, and offering a potential source of summer jobs for youth.

**Sports Fields** Walpole sports are integral to our community spirit and our playing fields are quickly degenerating from overuse and no rest time. Approximately 8 acres of the Sunny Rock Farm property can be used to create at least two new all-purpose playing fields. Access to the fields and parking will be from Fisher Street (see map on back).

**Scenic, Rural Walpole** Preserving Sunny Rock helps preserve the rural New England character of Walpole. It will keep development in balance so we don't lose our open spaces, hiking trails, biodiversity and wildlife habitat. It also moderates additional costs to the Town for schools, road maintenance, and other services that come with new housing developments.

**Proposed Funding** The purchase price for Sunnyrock Farm is \$2.95 million, less than an independent appraisal completed in June 2011, and the partners have until June 15, 2012 to raise the funds. We have already secured more than 1/3 of the purchase price. **However we need your help!** The Citizens for Sunny Rock Farm together with TPL need to raise the remainder of the purchase price to save Sunny Rock Farm. Your generous support is greatly needed to make this project a success!

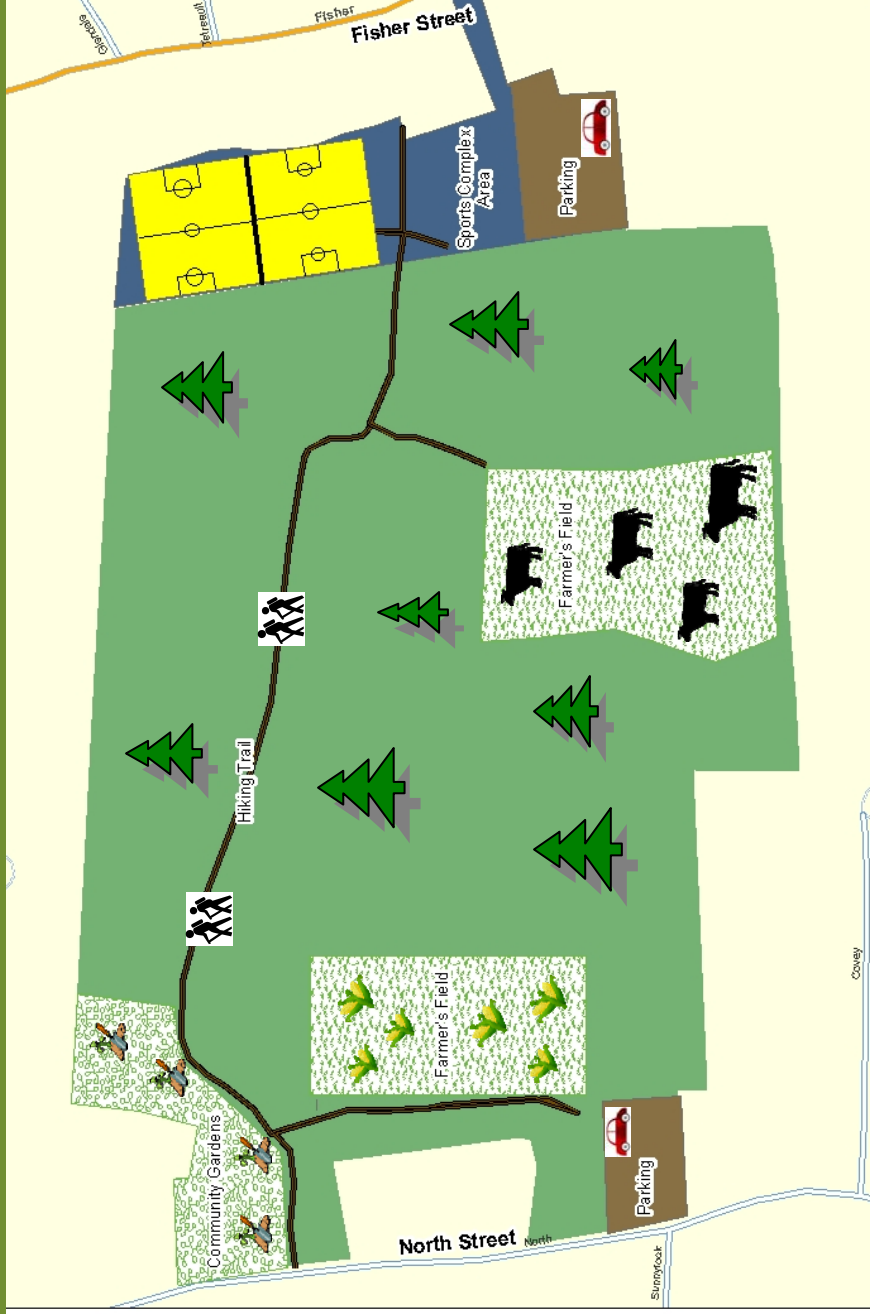


### Funding Sources

Anonymous Donor (Committed)	\$1,000,000
Walpole Conservation Fund (Committed)	\$100,000
<b>Funds Needed</b>	<b>\$1,850,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,950,000</b>

# SUNNY ROCK FARM

## AGRICULTURE, PLAYING FIELDS, OPEN SPACE



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### What happens to Sunnyrock Farm if the Town doesn't buy it?

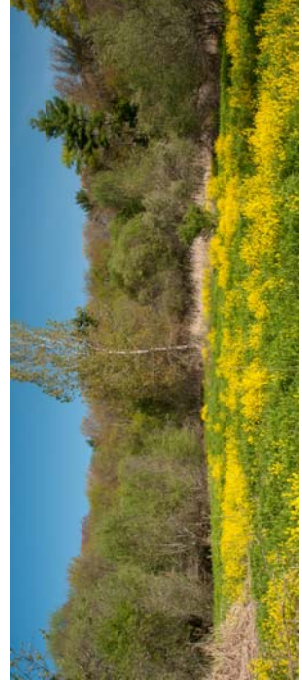
Several developers including national ones have expressed interest in subdividing and developing Sunny Rock and with current zoning laws, nearly 30 new homes could be built on the property. The Trust for Public Land has an agreement with the landowner to acquire 74 acres of the majority of the farm for agriculture and playing fields. If the partners can not raise the purchase price by June 15, 2012, then the landowners will likely to sell to a developer.

#### Who will operate the property if the Town owns it?

The Trust for Public Land will work with the Citizens and town officials to negotiate a lease for a farmer to revitalize Sunnyrock Farm. The farmer can maintain the property, cultivate it for local food, and provide a source of revenue to Walpole, while contributing greatly to Walpole's economy and rural heritage.

#### What kind of playing fields will be created?

If acquired, approximately 8 acres of land for new playing fields. The land contains a large, flat existing field already cleared. The Town could create at least two multi-purpose fields and parking in this area.



*"My children used to come to Sunny Rock Farm to see the 4H Club sheep and bunnies and take hayrides in the fall. We've lost so many farms in the past few decades. Preserving Sunny Rock will ensure that a piece of Walpole's farming history is preserved for future generations."*

Yvette Morrill, Citizens for Sunny Rock Farm

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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