

Town of Mansfield, CT  
September 28, 2023  
Application  
Agricultural Services Lease  
Torrey Field

**Background**

The Town Council of the Town of Mansfield recognizes the importance of agriculture and farming to the Town. Currently, the Town leases seven properties to local farmers to support the Town's agricultural activity, food sources and economy, and to preserve and enhance the properties.

**Request**

The Town of Mansfield seeks proposals from qualified agricultural producers for the leasing for agricultural purposes of the 3-acre open field located within Torrey Preserve, approximately .2 miles west of the intersection of Chaffeeville and Gurleyville Roads. The Nipmuck Trail extends along part of the eastern boundary, and a Preserve trail is located along the edge of the field. An aerial photo is attached. The lease will begin on **January 1, 2024**. Payment ("consideration") for the use of the land is responsible stewardship of the agricultural land. The fields are currently in alfalfa production. Because of the trails on this property, there is a preference for hay type crops.

It is preferred, but not absolutely essential, that applicants be regularly established in farming and agricultural business and demonstrate the ability to perform the required service in an acceptable, reliable manner over the life of the lease. Preference will be given to applicants with a strong stewardship plan. The selected producer must agree to comply with Mansfield's Agricultural Land Use Agreement Policy (attached) adopted by the Town Council, and all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations, as amended, in the performance of the Lease contract with the Town. The Town will award a contract, which serves the best interests of the Town.

The Town will execute a five-year lease agreement, with an option to extend once for five additional years. This schedule would allow for long-term agricultural management as well as an opportunity for the Town to review its lease requirements and leasing process every ten years. This also provides an opportunity for consideration of new requests for leases at that time. Any future Town farmland acquisitions would include lease terms that would allow it to conform to this ten-year cycle. Either the Town or the applicant may suggest an alternate lease term, but the foregoing plan is preferred.

An application (available at <https://mansfieldct.jotform.com/planning/town-of-mansfield-agricultural-prop> or in paper form on request) and proposal must be submitted **no later than October 31, 2023**. Proposals received after this date will not be considered. Electronic submissions are preferred.

If anyone contemplating submitting a proposal is in doubt as to the true meaning of any part of these specifications, they may submit requests for information and/or clarification in writing via e-mail to [PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org](mailto:PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org) by **October 19, 2023**. No interpretations as to the meaning of the request for proposal or application shall be made to any bidder orally.

Addenda information will be available online at [www.mansfieldct.gov/2024-agricultural-land-leases](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/2024-agricultural-land-leases) by **Wednesday, October 25, 2023**. It is strongly suggested that bidders check for any addenda a minimum of forty-eight hours in advance of the submission deadline. Failure of any submitter to receive any such addendum or interpretation shall not relieve any bidder from any obligations under his/her bid as

submitted. Each bidder is responsible for checking the Town's website to determine if the Town has issued any addenda and, if so, to complete its proposal in accordance with the RFP as modified by the addenda. All addenda so issued shall become part of the Proposal Documents. Oral explanations will not be binding on the Town.

A final selection will be made and all applicants will be notified by **November 30, 2023**. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in whole or in part or to waive technical defects, irregularities, and omissions if, in its judgment, the best interests of the Town will be served.

Please submit proposals to:

Michael Stankov  
Environmental Planner  
Mansfield Department of Planning and Development  
4 South Eagleville Road, Storrs CT 06268  
(860) 42 -3335  
StankovM@MansfieldCT.org

**AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/ EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ EMPLOYER, SECTION 3 CONTRACTORS AND  
MINORITY/WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY**