

Connecticut Agricultural MEDIATION Program

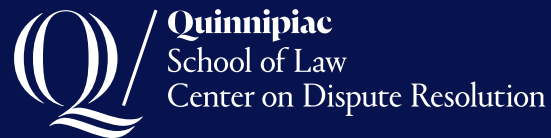


The Connecticut Agricultural Mediation Program (CTAMP) provides mediation and other conflict resolution services to Connecticut's agricultural and rural community. Certified and sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), CTAMP's services are available state-wide at no cost for USDA customers with qualifying issues.

US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA Agricultural Mediation Program

"The USDA Agricultural Mediation Program makes grants to state-designated entities that provide alternative dispute resolution (ADR) through mediation to agricultural producers, their lenders, and others directly affected by the actions of certain USDA agencies."



The Center on Dispute Resolution (The Center) of Quinnipiac School of Law hosts CTAMP.

In addition to offering mediation-related services through CTAMP, The Center offers mediation of non-USDA related matters and mediation education, in the form of mediation training courses, workshops, lectures, and publications.



Connecticut Agricultural Mediation Program
Center on Dispute Resolution
Quinnipiac School of Law

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800-870-2577
www.CTAGMediation.org

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program (not all prohibited bases apply to all programs).

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to:

USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
Office of the Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410
Washington, DC 20250

Or call toll-free:

866-632-9992 English 866-377-8642 English Federal-relay
800-877-8339 TDD 800-845-6136 Spanish Federal-relay

About Appeal Deadlines If you are a borrower appealing a USDA decision or a USDA adverse determination, request mediation as soon as possible upon receiving the notice of the decision or adverse determination, in order to stay the period of appeal. Address any questions regarding time limits for appeals to your local USDA office.

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Photos courtesy of
The Connecticut Department of Agriculture
and Michael Herwood.

Connecticut Agricultural MEDIATION Program

**Serving Connecticut's
Agricultural and Rural
Communities**



*We help
Connecticut's
AGRICULTURAL
producers
and providers
and **RURAL**
communities to
resolve and manage
disputes through
MEDIATION,
facilitation,
and training.*

Connecticut
Agricultural
MEDIATION
Program

MEDIATION is a voluntary and flexible process that helps those in conflict have open, honest, and confidential discussions about the issues underlying their conflict.

“In mediation a trained, impartial mediator helps participants review and discuss their conflicts, identify options to resolve disputes, and agree on solutions.”

Agricultural Mediation Program Overview, USDA Farm Service Agency



What Issues Qualify for Mediation?

The Connecticut Agricultural Mediation Program (CTAMP) can help you talk through problems including—

USDA Agency Adverse Decisions

Farm Loans | Credit

Public Land Use

Easement | Access

Conservation Programs

Wetlands Determinations

Crop Insurance

Organic Certification

Pesticide Application

Family Farm | Estate Transitions

Neighbor to Neighbor Disputes

Other issues may qualify for mediation services as considered appropriate by the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

Benefits of Mediation

MEDIATION Gets to the root of the problem.

Mediation is an opportunity for open, frank, and confidential discussion.

MEDIATION Explores more options.

The mediator helps you identify and communicate your needs and discover creative solutions.

MEDIATION Preserves relationships.

The cooperative nature of mediation helps maintain or strengthen your important relationships.

MEDIATION Saves time, money and stress.

Mediated disputes are usually resolved in one or a few sessions, reducing the time, cost, and stress compared to appeals and/or litigation.

MEDIATION Satisfies more.

Participants are generally more satisfied and likely to comply with a mediated solution. And if you don't reach agreement, you may pursue any available administrative appeals.

Cost of Mediation

CTAMP provides mediation services for USDA related disputes at no cost to those who qualify for the USDA's Agricultural Mediation Program.

To learn whether your dispute qualifies for free mediation, contact CTAMP

How to Request Mediation Services

Requesting mediation is easy.

Contact the Connecticut Agricultural Mediation Program (CTAMP) by email, phone, or via our website—

CTAMP@Quinnipiac.edu

800-870-2577

www.CTAGMediation.org

If a USDA agency issues you an adverse determination, the agency will offer you the option to mediate. Request mediation within the USDA deadline to ensure that the agency participates. (See *About Appeal Deadlines* on the reverse.)

Mediating early often resolves your conflict before it escalates

Once you notify CTAMP of your decision to mediate we will contact all relevant parties and schedule a mediation session within 30 days or as soon as all parties can become available.

OTHER SERVICES

CTAMP offers mediation-related services for agricultural and land-use issues in addition to those that qualify for the USDA's free Agricultural Mediation Program. CTAMP provides these mediation-related services on a sliding-scale fee structure. Other services include—

Situation Assessment

Conflict Coaching

Meeting Facilitation

Conflict Resolution Training

Contact CTAMP to learn how we can help you.

About Our Mediators and Facilitators

CTAMP's trained mediators and facilitators have experience with agricultural, land-use, environmental, workplace, financial, family, and regulatory disputes. We have backgrounds in law, social work and government.

