



WLA 2018 Policy Priorities

- Bonding - Support a new bonding authorization of \$10 million for farmland protection programs
- CIA – Maintain the integrity of the Community Investment Act
- Constitutional Amendment – Support passage for the second year (required in the 2018 session) to increase the transparency in conveyances of state-owned lands
- Support the Department of Agriculture as a stand-alone agency with appropriate funding and staffing at levels which support farmland preservation and agricultural programs to the greatest extent possible
- Advocate for policy to accelerate new & beginning farmers restoration grants – Reduce the 50% required match for the Farmland Restoration Grant Program to put more farmland into production.
- Renewable Energy – support policy for the use of on farm solar that supports ongoing farm operations
- PA 490 – Oppose policy changes that would limit access to farmland and/or accelerate the loss of working lands in Connecticut cities and towns
- Farmer/worker housing – support examination of farm worker housing & incentives
- Support a local option municipal open space and working lands funding mechanism
- Advocate examination of ways to best increase the profitability of farms.