

# New Hampshire Agricultural Mediation Program

## How to Request Assistance?

It's easy. Just call, e-mail, or fill out a request mediation form available on our website.

## For More information contact:

Matt Strassberg or Julie Hoyt  
NHAMP c/o NH Dept. of Agriculture  
PO Box 2042  
Concord, NH 03302-2042  
(603) 685-4780 or (800) 511-2213  
[info@emcenter.org](mailto:info@emcenter.org)  
[www.nhamp.org](http://www.nhamp.org)

## How Much Does Mediation Cost?

NHAMP can provide mediation services on the issues listed here for free. NHAMP receives a grant from USDA to help pay for mediation services for the agricultural community in New Hampshire. For issues outside the USDA program, we can offer assistance at a low cost.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.





## How We Can Help?

Running a farm is challenging. Narrow financial margins can create problems with lenders and unsecured creditors. Complex federal programs can lead to disagreements over program eligibility and compliance. Uncooperative weather can bring losses and problems with insurance claims.

That's where we come in. *We grow solutions* to some of the problems that farmers face everywhere.

## What is Mediation?

Mediation is an informal way to resolve problems by utilizing an impartial person to assist parties negotiate their differences. The mediator does not have decision-making authority and does not determine who is legally right or wrong. The mediator helps the parties by facilitating the discussion, identifying and clarifying the issues, and exploring options to resolve the problem.



## What is the New Hampshire Agricultural Mediation Program (NHAMP)?

NHAMP is the official agricultural mediation program for the State of New Hampshire certified by the USDA and the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture. NHAMP is a program of the non-profit Environmental Mediation Center. NHAMP has mediators on staff and contracts with private mediators to help you resolve problems through an informal process before they get more complicated and costly.

*"The New Hampshire Agricultural Mediation Program offers producers, lenders and others in the agricultural community the opportunity to resolve disputes in a non-adversarial manner, which may also save the parties time and money. The mediation program's services are free of charge. Contact Matt Strassberg to learn more about how the program can assist with resolving a wide range of agricultural conflicts or disputes."*

- Lorraine Merrill, Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food



## Why Use Mediation?

Mediation offers several advantages because the process

- ✳ Allows the parties to tailor solutions to meet their interests
- ✳ Leaves the decision-making authority with the parties
- ✳ Helps restore and preserve important relationships
- ✳ Is usually cheaper and faster than other methods to resolve problems

## What Kinds of Problems and Issues Can Be Mediated?

- ✳ Adverse Decisions from USDA agencies
- ✳ Compliance Issues with USDA Programs
- ✳ Farm and Rural Development Loans
- ✳ Other credit problems
- ✳ Wetlands Determinations
- ✳ Crop Insurance
- ✳ Pesticide Issues
- ✳ Other Agricultural Disputes