

## **Town Article 9 – Zoning Amendment 8 - Change Definition of Agriculture**

This article will add a new definition of “Agriculture” to the Raymond Zoning Ordinance by adopting that used by the State of NH including definitions for livestock, crops, plants, roadside stands, and farmers markets. (1) The article will also change the definition of Non-Commercial Agriculture so there is no specific land acreage requirement. (2)

**A YES vote** would adopt the State’s definition for “Agriculture” into the Town Zoning Ordinance and remove the two-acre requirement for non-commercial agriculture.

**A NO vote** would maintain the requirement of a minimum of two-acres for non-commercial agriculture and a new definition of “Agriculture” would not be adopted.

### **Reasons why some voters might vote yes:**

- To clarify the term “agriculture.”
- To remove the lot size for agricultural activities that are not for profit.

### **Reasons why some voters might vote no:**

- Disagreement with the State of NH definition.
- Prefer to keep the size requirements for non-commercial agriculture.

### **References:**

1. See NH RSA 21:34-a Farm, Agriculture and Farming states “I. The word "farm" means any land, buildings, or structures on or in which agriculture and farming operations or activities are carried out or conducted and shall include the residence or residences of owners, occupants, or employees located on such land. Structures shall include all farm outbuildings used in the care of livestock; in the production and storage of fruit, vegetables, or nursery stock; in the production of maple syrup; greenhouses for the production of annual or perennial plants; and any other structures used in the operations or activities named in paragraph II(a) or (b) of this section or any combination of such individual operations or activities. II. The words "agriculture" and "farming" mean all operations or activities of a farm...”
2. If approved, the wording would be: 13.1.5.2. NON-COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE: Agricultural use of land accessory to a residential use ~~where the lot size exceeds two~~ acres.