

*What is the purpose of the Franklin Ag Com?*

To support, promote and enhance the long-term economic and environmental viability of Franklin agriculture, which includes:

- ▶ Help educate our community
- ▶ Build relationships and help resolve conflicts between farms and neighbors or town boards
- ▶ Serve as a resource on agricultural matters for all town boards and citizens
- ▶ Preserve farmland within the town



**FRANKLIN AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

- Carly Fisher - Chair**  
**Jeff Perry - Vice Chair**  
**Marian Szymanski - Clerk**  
**Linda Noel**  
**Roger Trahan**  
**Nick Hoffmann**  
**Tim Garboski**

[www.franklinma.gov/agricultural-commission](http://www.franklinma.gov/agricultural-commission)

town of

FRANKLIN

FRANKLIN is a progressive and pleasant town of 440 dwelling-houses, 2,562 inhabitants, and a valuation of \$1,819,525, lying in the south-west part of Norfolk County, 27 miles south-west of Boston by the Boston, Hartford, and Erie Railroad. The principal rock is sienite, in which fine specimens of amethyst are found. The surface of the town is uneven, the soil various, and the drainage effected by Mine and Shepard's Brooks and their tributaries, which flow northerly into the Charles River. These, with reservoirs, afford valuable hydraulic power, employed in driving the machinery of three felting and four saw mills, and also one shoddy-mill. The manufacture of straw hats and bonnets is carried on extensively, the value in one year amounting to \$618,600. There are also manufactures of boots and shoes, soap, boxes, boats, and ladies' felt hats. The number of farms is 220; and of persons employed upon them, 282. The number of acres in woodland is 4,737, valued at \$98,877. Large crops of potatoes are raised here; and 205 acres are devoted to the culture of the cranberry. The central village has a very neat and pleasant aspect. It contains many beautiful residences; a good hotel,—the Central House; a bank of discount, and one of savings; a good high school; a public library of 1,500 volumes; the Dean Academy; and several handsome churches. Franklin has a good weekly journal, called "The Franklin Register"; twelve school-districts; and six churches. The town is noted for the temperate and industrious habits of its people. A church was organized here Feb. 16, 1737; and the Rev. Elias Haven, from Hopkinton, was ordained pastor. The town was incorporated March 2, 1778.

An excerpt from *Gazetteer of Massachusetts* written by the Rev. Eliot Nasson, M.A., in 1873

Town of Franklin 1858

*Franklin has a rich History of Farming*





# AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

