



Aquidneck Island Land Trust Statement Regarding Withdrawal of Sweet Berry Farm Development Proposal

MIDDLETOWN, June 10, 2026 — The owners of Sweet Berry Farm have notified the Aquidneck Island Land Trust they have withdrawn their application for development approval from the Middletown Planning Board and are considering a scaled-down proposal for future Land Trust review and Planning Board submission.

The Land Trust, which holds conservation easements on the farm, has been in discussions with the landowner focusing on enforcement of easement terms, particularly the requirement that additional structures are used primarily for agricultural purposes, and any proposal is consistent with the Land Trust's easement and the Middletown zoning ordinance related to non-agricultural events.

“We believe Sweet Berry Farm’s decision to withdraw its proposal is in the best interests of the farm, the public, and the Land Trust,” said Terry Sullivan, Executive Director of the Land Trust. “Moving forward it’s essential for the Land Trust to have a clear understanding of the intended intensity of non-agricultural events on the property. Any revised proposal should have greater clarity regarding such events. We look forward to continuing our discussions with the farm to ensure that any future proposals comply with the conservation easement on the property.”