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River COG debuts CT first regional ag council

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Middletown, Portland, East Hampton and more than a dozen other Connecticut communities have banded to create the state's first regional agriculture council to promote and preserve farming within their borders, authorities say.

The governing board of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (River COG) said elected officials from all 17 member municipalities unanimously voted recently to create the council.

Middlesex County Farm Bureau President Walter Adametz said the initiative is the result of support between River COG and a group comprised of members from the East Haddam and Durham Agriculture Commissions, Connecticut Farm Bureau and others.

The objective of the Regional Council is to support farming in the 17 municipalities and promote agriculture-friendly land use and municipal policies.

The 17 communities represented by River COG: Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Killingworth, Haddam, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook.

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