



NYS AGRICULTURAL MEDIATION PROGRAM

STRAIGHT TALK • FAIR SOLUTIONS

NYSAMP

255 River Street, 4th Floor
Troy, NY 12180
866-669-7267 (toll free)
518-687-2245 (fax)

Visit www.nysamp.com to find
a NYSAMP affiliate in your area.



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Agricultural mediation is a tool for farmers and others in the agricultural community to talk about difficult subjects and to reach fair and workable solutions without involving outside authorities. Mediation can help people solve problems, avoid escalating conflict, reduce stress, and save time and money.

Mediation is confidential and convenient. Free or low cost services are available in every county in New York. Local mediators are trained under the supervision of the NYS Unified Court System.



STRAIGHT TALK

A mediator helps you communicate clearly, figure out what you really want, and negotiate effectively. Mediation helps people clear up misunderstandings and find new options. Mediators are neutral; they do not decide outcomes and do not give legal advice. Mediation can help preserve important business and personal relationships.

“Mediation was great;
it got us talking, and
that's what we needed.”

~ Melissa Mullen, Steuben
County Farm Family

FAIR SOLUTIONS

Mediation helps people in conflict to reach workable solutions that everyone can live with. The people who are directly involved make decisions and solve problems for themselves. More than 80% of agricultural mediations result in agreements.

www.nysamp.com

“Things happened fast and to great satisfaction of all parties involved. I was amazed that egos were set aside so easily, as well as an agreement being reached to satisfy both sides.”

~ Lindsay Wickham,
Farm Bureau

WHAT CAN BE MEDIATED?

- Loans or debts
- Neighbor complaints
- Small claims
- Labor problems
- Landlord/tenant
- Custody and visitation
- Divorce
- Farm business plan
- Family farm succession
- USDA appeals

Your local NYSAMP affiliate may have other services available to you.

SUCCESS STORIES

Neighbor Complaint

A dairy farmer and his neighbor were surprised that mediation helped them end their battle over odors. The neighbor had complained to police, town officials, and the DEC. The farmer was angry that his neighbor did not even talk to him. After a two hour mediation, the neighbor understood more about farming, and the farmer agreed to give notice of manure spreading and other farm practices. They also developed a plan to handle future complaints themselves.



Family Conflict

A couple with a greenhouse and farm stand decided to divorce. Although feelings still run high at times, they were able to talk more calmly in mediation. They avoided the high costs of litigated divorce and, using referrals for financial and legal advice, they also made workable plans for their business and family. Both are active in their son's life, and can make plans together without fighting.



Note: Details were changed to protect privacy and confidentiality.

ABOUT NYSAMP

The NYS Agricultural Mediation Program (NYSAMP) is one of over 30 state programs that provide conflict management services. NYSAMP is funded by the USDA and NYS Unified Court System. NYSAMP is administered by the NYS Dispute Resolution Association, an independent nonprofit organization (www.nysdra.org).

“Mediation brought focus and was very helpful. An outside look helped us look at different options. The mediator asked good questions to provoke additional thought.”

~ Tom Becker, FSA

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NYSAMP provides training in communication, negotiation, and conflict management by a state-wide network of trainers and practitioners.

