



COVID-19 Resources for Maine's Aquatic Farmers

www.maineaqua.org

General info

[CDC FAQs](#) general FAQs about the virus

[National Fisheries Institute](#) coronavirus & seafood FAQ website

[National Fisheries Institute](#) talking points about coronavirus & seafood

[FDA](#) food safety & coronavirus

Funding

[Small Business Administration](#) COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program

[Maine Dept. of Economic and Community Development](#) small business resources

[Maine State Chamber of Commerce](#) more resources / guidance for small businesses

[Finance Authority of Maine](#)

[Farm Service Agency Guidebook](#) (large PDF)

List of specific FSA loan programs:

- [Direct Operating Loans](#)
- [Microloans](#)
- [Direct Farm Ownership Loans](#)
- [Minority and Women Farmers and Ranchers](#)
- [Beginning Farmers and Ranchers](#)
- [Emergency Loans](#)
- [Native American Tribal Loans](#)

Surveys

[Beginning Farmer Resources Network](#) **FARMERS – PLEASE TAKE THIS!** MAA will use the data to advocate for farmers to qualify for support programs. Help us help you.

[Virginia Tech Survey](#) relevant for including aquaculture businesses in federal funding programs

Directories *for farmers doing direct distribution*

[Cooperative Extension local food directory](#) (terrestrial & aquatic farmers)

[Maine Oyster Company](#) (oysters)

[TheBrinyBabe](#) (oysters)

[National Fisherman](#) (wild & farmed seafood)

[Local Catch Network](#) (wild & farmed seafood)

[Maine Magazine](#) (local food in ME)

Facebook pages *for farmers doing direct distribution*

[The Maine Seafood Connection](#)

[Maine's Working Waterfront – Seafood Connect](#)
[Maine Fish Direct](#)
[New England Seafoodies](#)

General business info from CDC & more:

- [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- [Information for Communities, Schools, and Businesses](#)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations – Community Facilities](#)
- SBA: [COVID-19 Resources](#)
- DOL: [Guidance for Preparing Workplaces for Coronavirus](#)
- DOL: [OSHA Resources for Workers and Employers on COVID-19](#)
- WHO: [Get Your Workplace Ready for COVID-19](#)
- CISA: [Risk Management for COVID-19](#)
- EPA: [Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19](#)

Also: DECD has a full team answering specific questions. Submit your question at the below link and they will get back to you within 24 hours with a personalized response:

business.answers@maine.gov

IMPORTANT: Tracking losses related to coronavirus

Message from Dana Morse:

As the process of adjusting to COVID-19 plays out, you may see disruptions in your normal sales; maybe you are already seeing this in your business. Because so much is unknown, we are writing collectively to suggest that you **keep close track of the losses of sales** that you encounter. It is unclear what programming will emerge from federal or state agencies to help relieve losses by farmers, but preparation for such an eventuality does not take that much work, and might help you access such a program(s) if they do in fact emerge.

Data that might be useful:

- Weekly sales numbers
- Employment (hours or number of employees) by week
- Any additional costs incurred because of the virus

On behalf of the Aquaculture in Shared Waters collaborators, please feel free to contact us, in case we can be of service as this plays out.

Coastal Enterprises Inc.
Maine Aquaculture Association
Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center
Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine Cooperative Extension