

# **Ryan P. Martin**

*An innovative leader and effective administrator with technical expertise in sustainable agriculture*

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## **Education**

### **M.S. Sustainable Food Systems**

Green Mountain College, May 2016

### **B.S. Environmental Studies**

University of Maine at Machias, May 2012

## **Leadership Experience**

### **City Councilor.** Hallowell, ME. November 2022 - Present.

- Elected to represent constituents on a platform of environmental stewardship, affordable living, and effective governance.
- Co-Author and Principal sponsor of a controversial, but necessary, grassroots ordinance to restrict cosmetic pesticide use within the rapidly developing riverside community.
- Committee assignments - Recreation Commission (Chair), Public Lands, and Health and Wellness.

### **Viles Arboretum.** Augusta, ME. June 2020 - Present. Executive Director.

- Located in Maine's capital city, Viles Arboretum serves as one of the largest nature centers in the state. The 220 acre facility is a vast public exhibit of agroforestry research and education, including some of the latest science in climate change adaptation and resilience.
- As the Director of a small nonprofit organization, my roles and responsibilities encompass a wide scope, from human resources and financial management to donor engagement and grant administration.
- Over the past 36 months, I've worked in close collaboration with our Board of Directors and staff to develop and implement a strategic plan, which has driven considerable organizational growth. Through the cultivation of a diverse coalition comprising technical partners, private donors, and government allies, we have managed to expand our revenue by 42%, enabling us to more effectively implement our programs and fulfill our mission.

### **Tilton School** Tilton, NH. Feb 2019 - 2020. Director, Summer Institute.

- In my strategic role with this elite New Hampshire Private School, I liaised with international partners across Europe and Asia to orchestrate a three-week, innovative STEAM learning experience that engaged a diverse assembly of students, educators, and industry professionals in 21st century learning experiences rooted in sustainable agriculture, low-impact building/design, and much more.
- Reporting directly to the CEO, my responsibilities encompassed extensive international travel, team recruitment, coaching, evaluation, and financial management. I played a significant role in the program's marketing and communications efforts, among other duties.
- My experience effectively bridged diverse cultural contexts and complexities to drive a small, but successful, global educational initiative.

## **Consulting Experience**

### **Cultivating Community.** Portland, ME. Feb 2022- Aug 2023. Independent Consultant

- Provided operational support, staff coaching, and grant writing assistance to an agricultural justice organization working with asylum seekers, local schools, and low-income households to develop local food systems.

### **Lexicon of Sustainability,** Petaluma, California, June 2016 - November 2016

- A curriculum writer for edu-tech start-up, *Lexicon of Sustainability* - Project Localize, a national educational program that helps classrooms identify and promote sustainable economic, cultural and social progress in their communities.

## Teaching Experience

**Mid-Coast School of Technology** Rockland, ME. Aug 2012 - Jan 2019. Horticulture/Agriculture Teacher.

- As a licensed Career and Technical Education teacher, my mandate was to prepare high school students for careers in agriculture.
- I developed an award-winning suite of accredited courses that paired theoretical instruction with practical farm management in a public school setting.
- The extensive program encompassed multiple greenhouses, an heirloom fruit-tree orchard, row crops, livestock, a cutting-edge aquaponics facility, and a thriving farm business. The curriculum provided an encompassing review of regenerative agriculture practices and theory, spanning from soil health and crop science to agribusiness and sustainability. This immersive learning methodology equipped students with a deep understanding of the art and science of food production.

**Kennebec County Community College** Fairfield, ME. Sep 2014 - May 2015. Adjunct Professor.

- In the Fall of 2015, I devised and taught a series of specialized courses through an industry-focused partnership with the college and one of Maine's largest agribusinesses, Backyard Farms LLC. The coursework predominantly focused on integrated pest management, hydroponic greenhouse design, and methods for reducing fertilizer inputs. The curriculum aimed to provide farm workers (many with a limited formal education) a professional development experience while driving improvements in the field.
- Given the successful reception and positive student outcomes, I was invited back to teach an advanced course, Crop Production, on campus for the Spring 2016 semester. This advanced module further delved into strategic and sustainable crop management techniques, highlighting best practices for maximizing yield while minimizing environmental impact.

**Maine Trust for Education in Conversation** Sullivan, ME. Summer, 2007-2012. Program Director.

- At this remote residential summer camp, I provided engaging, hands-on environmental education to a diverse group of young people aged 10-17.
- I worked with other staff collaboratively to create a fun and engaging experience that included organic food production, animal husbandry, and sustainable design initiatives like passive-solar showers and effective waste management systems.
- This immersive experience, set on an isolated rural farm, offered campers a unique perspective on the interplay between daily living and environmental sustainability, fostering a profound appreciation for the environment in our future stewards.

## Licenses And Certifications

- Highly Qualified Teacher Endorsement. Horticulture. (7 -12). State of Maine, Department of Education. 2012 - 2019.
- Maine Commercial Pesticide Applicator License. State of Maine, Department of Agriculture. 2014-Present
- Certified Instructor. First Responder/CPR/AED. American Red Cross. 2018 - 2021.

## Volunteer Experience

- **Maineshare, Interim President.** April 2021 - December 2021. A statewide federation of nonprofits with shared fundraising initiatives. Assisted with the transition and eventual acquisition of Maineshare by a partner organization, Maine Initiatives.

- **University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Waldo County, Vice-President.** Fall 2014 - Spring 2015. Regional governing committee of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, which is responsible for supervision of local staff, budget, outreach efforts, events planning, etc.
- **Islesboro Farmers Market, Chair.** Summer 2014 and Summer 2015. Worked in conjunction with local business owners to plan and execute a small farmers market.

## Awards and Recognitions

- "The Teacher: Islesboro Central School." Spring 2016. Portland Press Herald
- Maine Community Foundation, Policy Scholar. 2010-2011. Augusta, ME.
- Maine Campus Compact Award for Environmental Civic Engagement. Spring 2009. Machias, ME.
- Student Senate. Fall 2008- Spring 2009. University of Maine at Machias.

## Skills

- Grant Writing, Fundraising, and Development
- Marketing and Communications
- Policy and Leadership
- Human Resources
- Facilities Management
- Finance and Operations
- Ecological Design and Sustainability
- Strategic Planning
- Program Design and Implementation
- Governance and Board Relationships
- International and Domestic Partnerships
- Education and Direct instruction

## References

*(Specific contact information can be made available upon request)*