



SUNNYVIEW ORCHARDS

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Town of Wallingford
Town Council
45 South Main St.
Wallingford, CT 06492

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Councilmembers,

On June 19 1992 May Session Public Act #92-17 took effect in Connecticut. This Act allows individual towns to abate 50% of property taxes on any fruit orchard maintained as a business.

Sunnyview Orchards was founded by my father Joseph A. Shookies in 1928 and has been family owned and operated since that time. We grow apples, pears, and peaches. More than 80% of our fruit is sold locally.

I am sure you are well aware of the plight of the family farm; fuel, electricity, fertilizer, chemical, and equipment repair & maintenance costs are steadily rising while prices paid to the farmer for his product have basically remained the same. Added to this is the fact that the 1991 growing season was the worst in over 50 years - spring came too early, summer drought, and Hurricane Bob.

Considering the tough economic times in Connecticut, it was encouraging to see our state lawmakers move so swiftly and confidently on Public Act #92-17.

Now I am asking the Wallingford Town Council to consider Public Act #92-17. Any help concerning property taxes would make the future of Sunnyview Orchards a bit brighter. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Charles J. Shookies