

Contact

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(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Program Development

Agriculture

Program Management

Scott J. Soares

State Director USDA RD SNE (CT,MA,RI), Owner Boston Bay Consulting and Shucker Extraordinaire at Scott Shucks. Curator of fine oysters and Padanaram Oyster Farm LLC

Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Summary

Creative leader with experience managing and working with diverse teams of public and private sector professionals and volunteers. Experience in state and federal government policy and program development and implementation as well as oversight and delivery of services and financing exceeding \$450 million annually. Education and work experience ranging from project design to environmental advocacy through economic and community development initiatives.

Experience

USDA Rural Development

State Director USDA Rural Development

March 2022 - Present (1 year 6 months)

United States

Through a suite of community, business and housing programs, USDA Rural Development is committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in rural America. Rural Development offers loans, grants and loan guarantees that support essential services associated with single and multi-family housing, economic development, health care, first responder services and equipment, water, as well as electric and communications infrastructure.

Professional staff from six offices in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island deliver comprehensive services aimed at economic development in communities that range from 50,000 to less than 10,000 in population. "RD" accomplishes its mission through business loans to banks, credit unions and community-managed lending pools; technical assistance and information to help agricultural producers and cooperatives; housing programs that help rural residents buy, rent, and/or upgrade safe, affordable housing; and technical assistance that is aimed at empowering rural and tribal communities.

Nationally, USDA Rural Development has a \$211 billion portfolio of loans and administers more than \$35 billion in loans, loan guarantees and grants annually.

www.padanaramoysterfarm.com

Manager

January 2022 - Present (1 year 8 months)

North Dartmouth, Massachusetts, United States

Boston Bay Consulting

Owner

May 2017 - Present (6 years 4 months)

Greater Boston Area

Scott Shucks. Curator of fine oysters.

Shucker Extraordinaire

June 2019 - Present (4 years 3 months)

Western Massachusetts

Specialize in "curating" oysters from premier Massachusetts oyster growers.

Scott Shucks. Curator of fine oysters. spreading oyster love in Western MA.

Providing pop-up raw bar service to wineries, breweries and private events.

We shuck so you don't have to.

USDA Rural Development

State Director

June 2015 - January 2017 (1 year 8 months)

Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island

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Cranberry Marketing Committee USA

Executive Director

April 2012 - May 2015 (3 years 2 months)

Wareham, Massachusetts

The CMC was established as a Federal Marketing Order in 1962 to ensure a stable, orderly supply of good quality U.S.-grown cranberries. Was responsible for a \$5.8 - \$6 million annual budget and served as the primary liaison between the CMC the 1,300-member-strong US cranberry industry and the USDA.

Established CMC at "head of the class" through technological applications for data collection, reporting, and communications; saw increased sales of U.S. cranberries both domestically as well as internationally through innovative efforts that positions cranberries as a year-round fruit; trademarked America's Original Superfruit® as marketing tool for industry.

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

4 years 6 months

Commissioner

April 2009 - April 2012 (3 years 1 month)

Served as Chief Executive Officer with responsibility for an up to 200 employee organization supported by an annual \$34-36M budget; oversaw all aspects of improving efficiencies, policy and program development, contract development and execution, human resources, legal and financial activities through a cadre of ten senior staff associated with more than three dozen different programs and initiatives; served as agency spokesperson to media outlets and frequent development/delivery of presentations at the municipal, state and national level; primary liaison for agricultural interests with federal agencies and legislators including familiarity with numerous federal cooperative agreements and programs not limited to those associated with the 'Farm Bill' or other federal legislative initiatives; served as Chair to numerous commissions and committees including but not limited to the Massachusetts Dairy Farm Revitalization Task Force, Massachusetts Food Policy Council, Executive

Order 535 Public Market Commission, and the Agricultural Lands Preservation Committee; served as President of Food Export – Northeast; and Second Vice President of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

Assistant Commissioner/Chief of Staff

November 2007 - April 2009 (1 year 6 months)

Responsible for overall day-to-day operations of 70+ organization and liaison to Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, sister agencies, and agricultural industry base

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

Acting Director of Agricultural Development

January 2005 - December 2005 (1 year)

Acting Director of Agricultural Development as the agency's key contact for Agricultural Commission development and collaboration with the Accelerated Conservation Planning Partnership that works to enhance the delivery of conservation planning services to Massachusetts farms by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Districts, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources.

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

Aquaculture Coordinator

1996 - 2005 (9 years)

Bootstrapped the still extant Aquaculture Development Program that has enabled continued growth, diversification and expansion of aquatic cultivation in Massachusetts

Education

University of Rhode Island

Fisheries and Animal Veterinary Science · (1993 - 1994)

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

B.S., Biology/Marine Biology · (1986 - 1992)