



2014 Eastern Mass MPPU Rental Protocol New Entry Sustainable Farming Project

Scheduled use of the enclosed Eastern Mass MPPU is available to farmer-processors who have obtained a state slaughter license and attended required MDAR-approved trainings. Scheduling will be on a first come, first served basis. In order to be assured of dates, first-time MPPU users must request processing dates at least three months in advance; prior MPPU users must request at least two months in advance.

To be eligible for scheduling MPPU use, producers must:

1. Submit a copy of the farm's DPH slaughter license application.
2. Submit preferred dates and alternative dates.
3. Attend a mandatory Food Safety and MPPU Equipment Use Training¹

Members are limited to processing 2,500 birds/year (no more than 300 birds per one- or two-day use²), and up to ten uses per year (with limits of two uses/month at the same location and four uses/month on the same farm) with the MPPU.

Use fees will be charged *per use*, whether for a single day or for two consecutive days. The 2014 MPPU rental fee schedule is as follows:

<150 birds:	\$ 150
151-200 birds:	\$ 200
201-250 birds:	\$ 250
251-300 birds:	\$ 300
301-350 birds:	\$ 350
351-400 birds:	\$ 400

Unit transportation to scheduled farms is not included in the MPPU rental fee. Farmers are responsible for arranging and paying for approved transport to and from their farm. New Entry will provide a list of approved unit transportation services upon request.

A **MPPU User Agreement** will be signed prior to MPPU use. Users will need to complete a checklist of Equipment Condition and Packing Requirements for "check in / check out" upon pickup and return of the MPPU or if the MPPU travels directly to another farm, the checklist

¹ If a producer cannot attend the mandatory food safety and MPPU equipment use training, they must schedule private technical assistance at an hourly rate to be negotiated with New Entry.

² Per WERO DEP Exemption Letter to NESFI, dated May 28, 2009: page 2: "...water generated at any given farm shall not exceed 400 gallons on any given day..."; and page 3: ...part 7. "The MPPU shall not be used on each small farm more than 4 times per month during any given active growing season for processing purposes; the unit shall not be stationed at the same physical location on the same farm more than 2 times per month; and no more than 2,500 birds shall be processed at any single farm per season."

must be completed at the farm gate “hand-off” between consecutive MPPU site locations. Any repairs made or needed on the MPPU ***must*** be communicated to New Entry **as soon as possible**.

On a new MPPU user’s first processing day, a New Entry staff person or representative will be present to assist with logistics and ensure that the new producer-processor is prepared to meet on-farm processing protocols, operate the MPPU equipment effectively, comply with licensing and food safety requirements, and will assess whether the producer is eligible to handle future rentals without additional assistance.

Consequences: if a producer is found to repeatedly misuse the MPPU, to return the MPPU in unsatisfactory condition, to be delinquent on payments or repairs, or if they are reported to violate MDPH standards and their DPH Slaughter License is revoked, the producer will be dropped from the unit use schedule.