2021 NORTHAMPTON COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION APPLICATION

EXTENDED APPLICATION ROUND

TO: All Agricultural Security Area (Act 43) Participants
FROM: Northampton County Farmland Preservation Board
DATE: January 6, 2021
SUBJECT: 2021 Agricultural Conservation Easement Program: EXTENSION


Enclosed, please find an application form for the Northampton County Agricultural Conservation Easement Program. This application will register you for the 2021 application year.

If you are interested in enrolling in the program, you must complete the enclosed application IN ITS ENTIRETY to be considered for the 2021 Easement Program. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. If you have questions while completing the application, please contact our office for assistance.

To be eligible, applications must be received in the Farmland Preservation office no later than 4:00 PM on MARCH 15, 2021. All original signatures must appear on the applications, so they cannot be faxed, scanned or emailed once completed. They must be mailed in or dropped off at the office.

Please return the application to:
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION
14 GRACEDALE AVE.
NAZARETH, PA 18064

If you have any questions, please contact:
Maria Bentzoni, Administrator or Ryan Shaw, Resource Specialist at: 610-829-6287.

For more guidance on completing the application, please see the reverse side of this letter.

PLEASE NOTE: If your farm did not qualify in a previous year, or you don’t think you qualify, AND you are located in a township that participates in our Township Partnership Program, please re-apply as we have changed our guidelines. The new guidelines are on the reverse.
***PLEASE READ THE APPLICATION CAREFULLY AND COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS! ALSO BE SURE TO REVIEW THIS LETTER EACH YEAR AS THE INFORMATION MAY CHANGE.***

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION)

PLEASE READ BEFORE YOU SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION!

☞ If a section of the application does not apply to your situation, please indicate “N/A”. If an answer is left blank, you will not be awarded any points for it. The application must be filled out in its entirety, (do not leave any blanks; for example, the date of your conservation plan). To find out if you have a conservation plan or for conservation plan information, please contact the NRCS office at 484-635-3789.

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☞ On the application where you enter the acreage offered for easement, YOU MUST list the amount of acres being committed for preservation. If it is your intention to “exclude” or “hold out” acreage for any reason, YOU MUST list that excluded or held out acreage in the box provided in the application. Please include a map showing the area you intend to exclude and indicate where the access road to it is located. ALL EXCLUDED AREAS MUST BE DETERMINED AT THE TIME YOU MAKE YOUR APPLICATION.

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☞ The amount of acreage offered for easement cannot be changed by more than 5% once the application is accepted. If the applicant changes the acreage by more than 5% (with the exception of the normally excluded area(s) around the existing house and buildings), the application will be disqualified.

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☞ Townships that have raised preservation funds through their Earned Income Tax (EIT) will have the opportunity to partner with the County to preserve important farmland in their township through the Township Partnership Program. The following townships have an approved Open Space Plan and an EIT in place that can be used to partner with Northampton County Farmland Preservation:

- Bushkill Township
- Moore Township
- Lower Mt. Bethel Township
- Plainfield Township
- Upper Mt. Bethel Township
- Williams Township

Townships that participate in the program will choose farms from the County’s ranking list for preservation. In this case, please be advised that application information submitted to the County will be shared with the respective township.

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☞ Starting in 2014, farms that do not meet the state and county criteria but are contiguous to an already preserved farm AND located in a township that participates in our Township Partnership Program will be eligible for preservation if:

- The property has at least 40% ACTIVE cropland, grazing or pasture and at least 40% of the soils available for agricultural production are Class I-IV.

- If the property is 25 acres or more, one exclusion area is permitted (beyond the existing building envelope) subject to current zoning regulations. If the property is less than 25 acres, NO exclusion areas beyond the existing building envelope will be permitted.

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☞ Properties that have a submitted/approved/active subdivision plan may not be eligible for preservation. Please contact our office for more information.

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☞ If you own multiple tax parcels, and are unsure about which parcels you want to submit, or if you would like assistance with your application for any reason at all, please contact our office.

THANK YOU!
Northampton County Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
2021 Application Form
30th Sign Up Period
EXTENDED

**Landowner Information**
This application must be completed in its entirety.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: (PLEASE PRINT)</th>
<th>SSN#</th>
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**Address:**
(Street/Rd) ___________________________ (City) ___________________________ (State) ___________________________ (Zip Code) ___________________________

**Property Address:**
(If farm address is different from mailing address) ___________________________ (City) ___________________________ (State) ___________________________ (Zip Code) ___________________________

**Telephone Number:** ___________________________

**Email Address:** ___________________________

Name and phone number of person actively farming tract:
Name: ___________________________ Phone#: ___________________________

**Is this operation a:**
☐ Corporation*
☐ Partnership**
☐ Sole Proprietorship

**Property Information**

1. **Total number of parcels submitted:**

2. **Municipality:** ___________________________

3. **Total Acreage of farm tract:**

   □ 400
   □ 500
   □ 600

4. **Agricultural Security Area:**
   Township: ___________________________
   Deed Book & Page of ASA: ___________/_________
   Book ___________________________ Page ___________________________

5. **Acreage being excluded from the easement:**
   (If you are excluding acreage outside of the existing building envelope, you **MUST** attach a detailed map showing the exclusions. **Applications without this map will be rejected.**)

   □ 100
   □ 200
   □ 300

6. **Tax Parcel ID# and acreage for each:**

   Map Block Lot Acreage: ___________ Deed Book & Page: ___________/_________
   Map Block Lot Acreage: ___________ Deed Book & Page: ___________/_________
   Map Block Lot Acreage: ___________ Deed Book & Page: ___________/_________
   Map Block Lot Acreage: ___________ Deed Book & Page: ___________/_________
   Map Block Lot Acreage: ___________ Deed Book & Page: ___________/_________

7. **Total acreage offered for easement:**
   (Enter the amount of acreage you are preserving: this figure cannot change more than 5% after the application has been submitted.)
   □ ___________________________

(continued on reverse)

Office use only: DP/ S/ H/ CF/ %/ I/ ___________/_________ = ___________ RF: ___________
### Overview of Farm Operation

9 How long has the property been owned by the same family?  

- Less than 50 yrs  
- 51-99 years  
- Over 100 years*  

(*Please attach copy of Century Farm Certificate)

10 How is your land zoned?  

- Agricultural  
- Agricultural w/Residential  
- Conservation  
- Commercial  
- Commercial/Industrial

11 Do you have public water or sewer? If so how close?  

- YES  
- NO

12 Are there any cemeteries located on this property?  

- YES  
- NO

13 Are there any railroads located on your property?  

- YES  
- NO

14 Are there any underground storage tanks located on the property?  

- YES  
- NO

15 Are there any equine activities on the property?  

- YES  
- NO

- Please describe: ___________________________________________________

16 Is your property located adjacent to:  

- Scenic, open space, historical or cultural significant land (flood plains, wildlife habitat, high quality watershed/streams)  
- Park/recreation area owned by Federal/State/County/Local  

- YES  
- NO

- Please describe: ___________________________________________________

17 Are there right-of-ways or easements through this property?  

- YES  
- NO

- Please describe: ___________________________________________________

18 Based on Act 38 of 2006, are you required to have a Nutrient Management Plan?  

- YES  
- NO

- Plan Date: _____/____/____

19 How many acres of land proposed is enrolled in CRP/CREP?  (Conservation Reserve Program/Cons. Reserve Enhancement Program)  

- Please circle one:  
  - CRP  
  - CREP  
- Acreage: ________  
- Contract period: _____/____/____ through _____/____/____

20 Do you have a USDA/NRCS Soil Conservation Plan?  

- YES  
- NO

21 Conservation Plan Date:  

- Plan #  
- Name on plan: ______________________

22 What percentage of the plan is currently being implemented?  

- %

23 List ALL conservation practices currently in use:  

- (List only those in use on the farm being submitted for preservation.)

24 Pasture or crops grown on land proposed for easement (past two growing seasons)  

- List types of livestock on the farm:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season 1</th>
<th>Season 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pasture/Crops</td>
<td>Acreage</td>
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<td>Livestock:</td>
<td>Amount:</td>
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Other Important Information

25. List property owners with Preserved Easements that are contiguous to your property: ____________________________

26. What businesses other than agricultural production are located on the farm? ____________________________

27. Please list information regarding any current agreements to sell the property: __________________________________
(Please note: We will not accept applications on properties that are currently under an agreement of sale.)

28. Please list any mortgages or liens held against this property: (List name of mortgage(s) or lien holder and type of lien)

29. Please give a list of buildings existing on the property: _______________________________________________________

30. Please specify any historic or environmental features found on the property: ____________________________

31. Street location of farmland tract (include CLEAR directions from nearest State Route)

"I/We hereby, authorize the Conservation Plan preparer to release copies of the Conservation Plan and Nutrient Management Plan (Act 38, if applicable), to the Northampton County Farmland Preservation Board and the Bureau of Farmland Preservation as required under Act 43 criteria for easement purchase.

I/We acknowledge that I am fully aware if there is a deviation from the original amount of submitted acreage listed on this application, The Northampton County Farmland Preservation Board or their designee has the right to disqualify my application and it will be withdrawn.

I/We, authorize Northampton County Farmland Preservation to release and forward a copy of this application to officials in my municipality for possible consideration of an easement purchase at the municipal level.

I/We, do hereby verify that I/We have reviewed the application. I/We further verify that the application correctly and accurately depicts the condition of the land and that such statements are true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge, information and belief. These statements are being given by me/us to induce official action on the part of the Northampton County Farmland Preservation Board, its agents, officers, servants, and employees. I/We understand that any false statements made herein are being made subject to the penalties of 18 P.A.C.S Section 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities."

Thank you for taking the time to complete this application as accurately as possible.

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(If additional signatures are needed, please copy this page)

Updated 9/14

THIS APPLICATION IS FOR THE EXTENDED 2021 APPLICATION ROUND. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 4PM MARCH 15, 2021.