

BUCKS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM
Purchase of Conservation Easements
Application Form
2011

1. General Application Guidelines

- **The application cannot be part of a current or future subdivision of the entire property that would result in any part of the subdivision being less than 50 acres.**
- **After application, a maximum of one lot may be excluded, at the owner's discretion, from the easement that is no greater in acreage than the current minimum lot size for the applicable zoning district. This is in addition to the permitted construction of one additional residential structure to be limited to providing housing for persons employed in farming the subject land on a seasonal or full-time basis.**

2. General Information

Name(s): _____

Address: (Street/Rd.) _____

City _____ (State) _____ (Zip Code) _____

Telephone: _____

County: _____

Township: _____

Agricultural Security Area: _____

Street Location of Farmland Tract: _____

Directions from Nearest State Route:

Total Acreage of Farmland Tract: _____

Total Acreage Proposed for Easement Purchase: _____

Crops Grown on Farmland Tract (2008)	Acres of Each
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Numbers and Kinds of Livestock on the Farm (2010)	# Head
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Deed Reference: Book _____ Volume _____ Page _____

*Applicant is required to attach a copy of the most recent Deed, as filed with the Registrar of Deeds.

County Tax Parcel Number of Each Parcel: _____

Date of U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service Conservation Plan, if any:

Name(s), Address and Telephone Number or Person(s) to Contact to View the Farmland Tract:

3. Production Information

1. The applicant must provide crop production information for the most recent crop year that comparable statistics are available from the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service or information for the prior two growing seasons as part of this application (2005-2006). The report will be as follows:

	Commodity/Crop	Acres Grown
2010		
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
2009		
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	

2. The applicant must provide livestock information for the farmland tract for the most recent calendar year that comparable statistics are available from the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service, or information from the prior two production years (2005-2006), as follows:

	Livestock	Average Numbers	Product Sold
2010			
	1.		
	2.		
2009			
	1.		
	2.		

4. What percentage of your total family income is derived from farming operations (not tenant income) _____? Just on tract from application _____?

5. What percentage of farming activities are performed by landowner, family members and/or employee's _____

4. Maps-

- The applicant is to provide the following maps as part of this application:
 1. Locational Map - A United States Geographical Survey Topographical Map showing the location of the farmland tract.
 2. A tax map of the farmland proposed for protection with map reference and tax parcel number clearly indicated.

Soils Plan Please send a copy of your soil conservation plan, if you have one. If you are not sure if you have a soil plan, or need to get a copy, please call the Bucks County Natural Resources Conservation Service at (215) 453-9527. They will provide assistance).

- The applicant is required to provide a soils report and soils map for the farmland tract proposed for easement purchase, and a table showing the capability class and use of land, as follows:

	Acres of Cropland/Pasture	Other Acreage	Total Acres
Class I	_____	_____	_____
Class II	_____	_____	_____
Class III	_____	_____	_____
Class IV	_____	_____	_____
Unique Land	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____
Total	_____	_____	_____

- The soils map shall color code soil types as follows:

Class I = Green	Class IV = Blue
Class II = Yellow	Wetlands = Cross-Hatch or Separate Map
Class III = Red	

Unique land is land other than Class I - IV that is used for the production of specific high value crop foods such as fruits and vegetables. To be evaluated for easement purchase, the unique land must be used for its unique purpose at the time of application.

1. Do you have a soil conservation plan? _____ Yes _____ No
2. What percentage of your farmed ground is currently being farmed with conservation practices (no-till, strips, etc.)?
3. Does your farm have any unique factors that the board should consider? Please list. (This would include unique site features that may be of an environmental, historic, or scenic value to the community.)

List any Mortgage
Or Lien Holder: _____

5. **Signature(s)**

It is necessary for all farmland owners to give their approval and consent to this application and for the release of the soil conservation plan for the farm.

I, hereby, authorize the Conservation Plan (Natural Resources and Conservation Service) preparer to release copies of the Soil Conservation Plan and Nutrient Management Plan (Act 6, if applicable), to the County Agricultural Land Preservation Board and the Bureau of Farmland Preservation as required under Act 43 criteria for easement purchase.

Signed _____ Date _____.

I hereby certify that I am _____ am not _____ a county board member.

Signature

of Landowners:

(Print Full Name)

Social Security No. (s)

Address:

Telephone: () _____

Date:

Submit to:

Richard Harvey, Director
Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation Program
C/o Bucks County Planning Commission
1260 Almshouse Road, Neshaminy Manor Center
Doylestown, PA 18901
(215) 345-3409 Fax (215) 345-3886 e-mail rbharvey@co.bucks.pa.us

Official Use Only:

File Number:

Agricultural Security Area:

Date Received: