



**MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION FUND BOARD
LOCAL FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM
FY2021 APPLICATION FORM**

APPLICATIONS DUE 4:00 p.m. Monday, December 28, 2020

Submit completed applications to:

MDARD-PDR@michigan.gov

Program Name:

Program Type (County, Township, Multi-Township):

Program Contact Person (Name, Email, Phone):

List of Townships Qualified to Participate (if applicable):

NOTE:

Refer to [Policies and Procedures](#) under the scoring system section for detailed information on evaluation criteria.

SUMMARY WORKSHEET:

Please complete all the following:

Total amount of money requested from the Agricultural Preservation Fund for all properties submitted:	\$
Estimated total value of the development rights of all the properties submitted (<i>a certified appraisal is not required</i>):	\$
The amount of matching funds to be provided as a percent of the total estimated value of the development rights of the properties submitted for the grant. (<i>The minimum match must be at least 25% of the estimated total value of the development rights.</i>):	\$
Total number of properties included in the application:	_____ Properties
Total number of acres included in the application:	_____ Total Acres
Percentage of agricultural land in the local program area (<i>total acres of ag. land in local program area divided by total acres of land in the local program area</i>):	_____ %
Percent of prime and unique soils and soils of local importance in the application (<i># of acres that are prime, unique, local importance soils/total # of acres in the application</i>)	_____ %
Percent of the land in the application covered by a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) approved conservation plan:	_____ %
Number of properties verified under the Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) OR number of properties completed Phase 1 and has a risk assessment:	_____ MAEAP Verified _____ w/ Risk Assessment

PROPERTY WORKSHEET:

Complete this worksheet and attach the requested information for EACH property in the application:

1. Name of landowner(s):

2. Size of the property (acres): _____

3. Estimated price to be paid for the development rights: \$ _____

4. Matching funds to be provided for the property:

Source(s) of matching funds	Amount of match
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

Total Match: \$ _____

5. The current State Equalized Value for the property: \$ _____

6. The number of acres of land in agricultural production: _____

7. Percent of prime and unique soils and soils of local importance: _____

8. The priority ranking of this property as compared with the others in the application: _____

9. Date of NRCS conservation plan: _____

10. Date farm was verified with the Michigan Agricultural Environmental Assurance Program (if applicable) and under which system (cropping, farmstead or livestock) OR date of risk assessment (if not yet verified):

Date: _____ System: _____ Verified? Y or N

INCLUDE WITH EACH PROPERTY WORKSHEET:

- A map showing the location of the property.
- Legal description (i.e. tax bill or deed).
- Certification that the surface mineral rights are controlled by the landowner (or that a third-party holder of the surface mineral rights would consent to subordination of those rights to the interest of the conservation easement).
- A signed option indicating the willingness of the landowner(s) to convey their development rights and enter into an agricultural conservation easement jointly with the local government and the State of Michigan.

LOCAL PROGRAM INFORMATION:

The following items should be addressed in a separate document and supporting documentation should be sent as attachments via email:

1. Submit the portion of the comprehensive land use plan that covers the required farmland preservation components for the participating townships (unless already provided earlier this year).
2. Description and supporting documentation of local commitment in farmland preservation.
 - Examples: millage, user fees, local tax, map of prioritized farmland preservation areas.
3. Description and supporting documentation of intergovernmental cooperation regarding farmland preservation efforts by submitting of one or more of the following:
 - Resolutions, letters of support, joint planning agreements, intergovernmental agreements, TDR between local entities, cooperative efforts between townships, reports from projects in which the units of government have cooperated together or other examples of other efforts that might qualify as intergovernmental cooperation in the land use area.
4. Description of conservation easement training by members of the local governing body that have received training within the last 4 years.
 - List the type of training received from the following: general understanding of conservation easement content, restrictions and enforcement, negotiation techniques, land appraisals, federal charitable benefits for donations, local tax implications, 1031 like kind exchanges, post mortem election under Federal tax law, capital gains questions associated with conservation easements.
 - List the names of members of local governing body that received training.
 - List dates the training was received.
5. Indication of the local capacity to execute a local PDR program.
 - Who is administering the program (list staff, consultants or partnerships)?
 - Is this person paid full or part time for work specifically to the PDR program?
 - Who is responsible for the annual monitoring of the easements (if applicable)?

6. Description and supporting documentation of tools used through planning and zoning to preserve farmland in the community. Select examples used from the following:
 - Township comprehensive land use plans that are compatible with county or regional comprehensive land use plans.
 - Communities participating in Joint Municipal Planning under the Joint Municipal Planning Act.
 - Zoning ordinances that are consistent with the comprehensive land use plan and effectively preserves agriculture.
 - Adoption of a Non-Contiguous Planned Unit Development Ordinance.
 - Sliding Scale zoning allowed in agricultural areas.
 - Density based zoning.
 - Increased residential densities in areas served with public utilities.
 - Other unique or unusual techniques for preserving farmland.
7. Submit agricultural economic development plan (if applicable).
8. Any other documentation that is not listed but would like to be considered by the Board for discretionary points.

All applications must be received via email by 4:00 p.m. Monday, December 28, 2020. Please submit completed application form and attachments to:

MDARD-PDR@michigan.gov