

Agricultural Conservation Easement – Landowner Questionnaire

To aid in determining viable agricultural conservation easements for the protection of farmland and agricultural uses.

Landowner Name: _____
Property Name: _____
Property Acreage: _____
Date: _____

A. Your Goals as Landowner (Check all that apply in each question.)

(1) Which values are important to you about your property?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> place to live | <input type="checkbox"/> pass on to the children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> place to visit | <input type="checkbox"/> preserve natural landscape and setting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> financial asset | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

(2) How are you likely to use your property in the next 20 years?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> leave as is | <input type="checkbox"/> give to children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> build house(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sell | |

(3) Why are you considering an agricultural conservation easement?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> to keep land open | <input type="checkbox"/> protect agricultural use / restrict development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tax deduction | <input type="checkbox"/> avoid family conflicts about future uses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> estate planning | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

(4) Which actions are consistent with your goals for the property?

- create opportunities to preserve and enhance existing agricultural resources as the primary use of the property
- create strong conservation restrictions so existing wildlife, scenic and/or agricultural resources are maintained and not diminished
- protect existing resources but allow room for some development for children or others
- create restrictions to generally protect resources and get tax deduction

(5) Are you uncertain about how you would like to use your property in the future?

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes | <input type="checkbox"/> no |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|

Comments:

B. Property Description and Conservation Values

(1) What is the acreage of your property? _____

(2) How many legal parcels does it consist of? _____

(3) What is the size of each parcel? _____

(4) Which qualities of the property are important to you in protecting?

(5) What special features of the property are important to you to protect?

____ homesteading and family history ____ topographical or geological
____ wildlife observations and resources ____ water frontage, ponds, etc.
____ agricultural use ____ other: _____

(6) Are there any benefits of adjoining lands that are especially important to you (i.e., protected open space, scenic vistas, special land feature, etc.)? If so, please describe.

(7) Are there any uses or plans for adjacent lands that especially concern you (i.e., subdivision, condominium development, heavy commercial use, fences blocking wildlife migration, etc.)? If so, please describe.

C. Property Ownership and Land Division (Mostly yes/no responses)

(1) Is the property owned jointly with family members ____ or non-family partners ____?

(2) How many years have you or your family owned the property? _____

(3) Has the owner of record changed during that time period (i.e. from a couple to an individual, partnership or trust)? _____

(4) Do you contemplate changing ownership in the future? _____
If yes, why and in what way?

(5) Is your property divided (i.e. multiple lots, subdivisions, etc.)? _____
If yes, briefly describe. _____

(6) Do you contemplate dividing your property? _____

(7) Is your property encumbered with any of the following?

_____ covenants	_____ utility easements
_____ deed restrictions	_____ easement of sight or record
_____ mortgage	_____ current use
_____ road easements	_____ other: _____

(8) Is the property that you are interested in protecting part of a larger adjacent property holding?

_____ yes _____ no

(9) Do you own other land elsewhere?

_____ yes _____ no

D. Current and Future Use of Property

(1) Do you now, or plan in the future, to use your property for any of the following?

_____ agriculture	_____ commercial or industrial use
_____ home-occupancy business	_____ long-term leasing

(2) Do you now, or plan in the future, to manipulate your property in any of the following ways?

_____ wetland enhancement/ pond creation	_____ fishery or wildlife habitat enhancement
_____ watercourse channeling	_____ tree or vegetation clearing
_____ topographical grading	_____ mining or gravel excavation
_____ road building	_____ creating land pad or airstrip
_____ trail building	_____ till for cultivation

(3) Do you now, or plan in the future, to use your property for any of the following recreational activities?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> walking | <input type="checkbox"/> horseback riding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> skiing | <input type="checkbox"/> photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> snowmobiling | <input type="checkbox"/> large group tours |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> hunting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> commercial recreation | |

E. Buildings

(1) Briefly list the number of each type of existing buildings.

Principle residences: _____

Guest houses: _____

Non-residential buildings (i.e., detached garages and barns): _____

Agricultural buildings: _____

(2) Briefly describe your future building plans (if any):

Please return this worksheet to:

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