



FARMLAND INFORMATION CENTER

FACT SHEET

STATUS OF STATE PACE PROGRAMS



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DESCRIPTION

As of January 2004, at least 24 states have authorized state-level purchase of agricultural conservation easement (PACE) programs. This table displays the status and summarizes important information about farm and ranch land protection programs in 19 states that have acquired funding and easements. To be included, the protection of agricultural lands must be a primary stated conservation purpose of the program.

EXPLANATION OF COLUMN HEADINGS

Year of Inception / Year of First Acquisition

“Year of Inception” is the year the law creating the PACE program was approved. “Year of First Acquisition” is the year the program acquired its first easement.

Easements / Restrictions Acquired

Number of agricultural conservation easements or conservation restrictions acquired through the state program. This number does not necessarily reflect the total number of farms/ranches protected as some programs acquire a property in stages and may hold multiple easements on the same farm/ranch. Some state programs do not hold easements but instead provide funds for easement purchase to local governments or land trusts.

Acres Protected

Number of acres protected by the program to date.

Program Funds Spent to Date

Dollars spent by each program to acquire easements on farms/ranches. Amounts may include unspent funds that are encumbered for installment payments on completed projects. Unless otherwise noted this figure does not include either incidental land acquisition costs, such as appraisals, insurance and recording fees, or the administrative cost of running the program. These figures do not include additional funds contributed by federal

programs, local governments, or private land trusts, foundations or individuals, or the value of landowner donations.

Additional Funds Spent To Date

Funds contributed toward state program acquisitions by local governments (e.g., counties, municipalities), private land trusts, foundations or individuals, and federal programs (see “Funding Sources” below.) The value of landowner donations is not included.

Program Funds Available

Program funds available for the current fiscal year to acquire easements on agricultural land.

Program Funds Available Per Capita

Program funds available per person based on state population figures for 2003 from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Outstanding Applications

Backlog of applications reported by program administrators.

Funding Sources

All sources of funding for each program to date. “Transportation funding” refers to federal money disbursed under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (ISTEA and TEA-21). ISTEA provided funding for a broad range of highway and transit programs, including “transportation enhancements.” Easement acquisitions that protected scenic views and historic sites along transportation routes were eligible. Adopted in May 1998, TEA-21 re-authorized federal transportation spending through fiscal year 2004 (including extensions). “FRPP” is the federal Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program. Originally established in the 1996 Farm Bill as the Farmland Protection Program, the FRPP provides matching funds to state, local and tribal agricultural easement acquisition

PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

State	Year of Inception/ Year of First Acquisition	Easements / Restrictions Acquired	Acres Protected	Program Funds Spent To Date	Additional Funds Spent to Date
California	1995/1997	78	22,500	\$31,700,000 ^	\$15,900,000
Colorado △	1992/1995	103	164,619	\$52,142,043 ^	\$120,268,709
Connecticut	1978/1979	202	28,850	\$84,292,665 ^	\$4,223,085
Delaware	1991/1996	411	76,846	\$78,626,813 ^	\$12,229,441
Kentucky	1994/1998	97	20,600	\$10,321,041	\$5,200,987
Maine	1999/1990	14	3,597	\$2,166,705	\$2,776,000
Maryland		1,909	272,902	\$324,885,462	\$105,670,705
<i>Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation</i>	1977/1980	1,673	232,767	\$230,000,000	\$99,200,000
<i>Rural Legacy</i>	1997/1999	236	40,135	\$94,885,462	\$6,470,705
Massachusetts	1977/1980	602	52,716	\$136,169,596	\$20,991,406
Michigan	1974/1994	67	15,243	\$27,656,965	\$2,430,736
Montana ×	1999/2000	8	9,923	\$888,000	\$1,420,710
New Hampshire		74	9,823	\$11,834,008	\$2,731,975
<i>Agricultural Lands Preservation Program</i> ×	1979/1980	31	2,864	\$5,000,000	\$140,000
<i>Land Conservation Investment Program</i> ×	1987/1988	36	6,232	\$5,349,008	N/A
<i>Land & Community Heritage Investment Program</i>	2000/2001	7	727	\$1,485,000	\$2,591,975
New Jersey	1983/1985	1,044	119,136	\$373,693,930 ^	\$204,628,489
New York	1996/1998	72	13,500	\$27,237,000 ^	\$16,737,390
North Carolina	1986/1999	33	4,412	\$2,394,500 ^	\$5,235,300
Ohio		67	12,505	\$9,375,000	\$4,880,000
<i>Ohio Agricultural Easement Programs</i>	1999/1999	53	9,505	\$9,375,000	\$3,380,000
<i>Southern Ohio Tobacco Agricultural Easement Purchase Program</i>	2002/2002	14	3,000	\$0	\$1,500,000
Pennsylvania	1988/1989	2,370	275,594	\$415,812,173	\$165,365,195
Rhode Island	1981/1985	58	4,258	\$10,790,965 ~	\$12,253,165 ~
Utah		19	31,956	\$5,360,800	\$8,680,905
<i>Critical Agricultural Land Conservation Fund</i>	1999/2001	2	29	\$139,000	\$166,000
<i>LeRay McAllister Critical Lands Conservation Fund</i>	1999/2000	17	31,927	\$5,221,800	\$8,514,905
Vermont	1987/1987	352	105,000	\$42,000,000 ^	\$37,537,150
STATE TOTALS		7,580	1,243,980	\$1,647,347,666	\$749,161,348

STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2004

Program Funds Available	Program Funds Available Per Capita	Outstanding Applications	Funding Sources
\$10,000,000	\$0.28	8	Appropriations, bonds, private contributions, FRPP
\$5,000,000 ☐	\$1.10	15	Local government contributions, portion of lottery proceeds, FRPP
\$3,457,335	\$0.99	140	Bonds, local government contributions, FRPP
\$14,300,000	\$17.49	50	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, portion of lawsuit settlement, private contributions, transportation funding, FRPP
N/A	N/A	565	Appropriations, bonds, tobacco settlement funds, FRPP
\$2,833,295	\$2.17	17	Appropriations, bonds, credit card royalties, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP
\$19,250,000	\$3.49	25	
\$12,000,000	\$2.18	0	<i>Agricultural transfer tax, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, FRPP</i>
\$7,250,000 ☐	\$1.32	25	<i>Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, federal wetlands conservation funds</i>
\$5,600,000	\$0.87	100	Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, transportation funding, FRPP
\$2,000,000	\$0.20	9	Local government contributions, private contributions, repayment of tax credits by landowners withdrawing from the state's circuit breaker program, FRPP
\$0	\$0.00	N/A	Appropriations, FRPP
\$0	\$0.00	10	
\$0	\$0.00	0	<i>Appropriations, local government contributions, FRPP</i>
\$0	\$0.00	0	<i>Bonds</i>
\$0	\$0.00	10	<i>Appropriations</i>
\$80,000,000	\$9.26	500	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, portion of state sales and use tax, FRPP
\$12,000,000	\$0.63	0	Bonds, property transfer tax, local government contributions, FRPP
\$0	\$0.00	0	Appropriations, FRPP
\$3,125,000	\$0.27	1,000	
\$3,125,000	\$0.27	1,000	<i>Bonds, FRPP</i>
\$0	\$0.00	0	<i>Tobacco settlement funds</i>
\$43,000,000	\$3.48	1,850	Appropriations, bonds, cigarette tax, interest on securities, local government contributions, FRPP
\$3,000,000	\$2.79	34	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP
\$848,000	\$0.36	7	
\$100,000	\$0.04	4	<i>Appropriations, FRPP</i>
\$748,000 ☐	\$0.32	3	<i>Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP</i>
\$4,600,000	\$7.43	55	Appropriations, bonds, Farms for the Future pilot program, local government contributions, private contributions, property transfer tax, transportation funding, FRPP
\$209,013,630		4,385	

programs. The program was expanded in the 2002 Farm Bill to include certain non-governmental organizations. In addition to these sources of funding, several programs reported contributions from private individuals or foundations.

STATUS OF STATE PACE PROGRAMS

NOTES

△ Program activity includes fee simple acquisitions of agricultural land. The program requires that the land remain available for agricultural use, typically through resale subject to a retained agricultural conservation easement.

× Program has terminated or is no longer acquiring agricultural conservation easements.

~ Figures are from 2003 or earlier data.

□ Program funds available include monies for other land conservation purposes.

^ “Program Funds Spent to Date” includes incidental land acquisition costs and/or personnel costs.

For additional information on farmland protection and stewardship contact the Farmland Information Center. The FIC offers a staffed answer service, online library, program monitoring, fact sheets and other educational materials.

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