

Preserving Washington County's Farmland for the Future

Public Informational Workshop

April 25, 2019 6:00 PM

Washington County Conservation District Office
50 Old Hickory Ridge Road
Washington, PA 15301

The Washington County Agricultural Land Preservation Board is accepting applications from landowners interested in preserving their farmland and applying to the County's Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program. The application period is open now through September 30, 2019.

The goal of the Farmland Preservation Program is to protect viable agricultural land and preserve farming opportunities for the future through the purchase of agricultural conservation easements.

Minimum Requirements for applications include the following:

- Land must be located in a duly recorded Agricultural Security Area, consisting of 500 acres or more.
- Farms must contain at least 50% of soils, which are available for agricultural production and are of Land Capability Classes I-IV, as defined by Soil Surveys published by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service.
- Farms must contain the greater of 50% or 10 acres (if adjacent to an already preserved farm) of harvested cropland, pasture or grazing lands.
- Farm must contain contiguous acreage of at least 50 acres in size

Topics include application submission, eligibility requirements (including Agricultural Security Areas), easement restrictions, conservation plans and more. Light refreshments will be served.

**Prior registration is recommended by calling the
Washington County Planning Commission at 724-228-6811.**