



FARMLAND
INFORMATION
CENTER

FACT
SHEET

STATUS OF

STATE PACE

PROGRAMS



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DESCRIPTION

As of June 2006, 27 states have authorized state-level Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) programs. Montana's PACE statute expired in 2003. This table displays the status and summarizes important information about farm and ranch land protection programs in 21 states that have acquired funding and/or easements. For a program to be included, the protection of agricultural lands must be one of its core purposes, accomplished primarily by compensating landowners for the value of the easement.

EXPLANATION OF COLUMN HEADINGS

Year of Inception / Year of First Acquisition

"Year of Inception" is the year in which the law authorizing the PACE program was passed. "Year of First Acquisition" is the year in which 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 because 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. Amount may include unspent funds that are encumbered for installment payments on completed projects. Unless otherwise noted, these figures do not reflect

incidental land acquisition costs, such as appraisals, insurance and recording fees, or the administrative costs of running the program. These figures do not include additional funds contributed by federal programs, local governments, private land trusts, foundations, individuals, or the value of landowner donations.

Additional Funds Spent to Date

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

Program Funds Available

Amount of program funds available for the current fiscal year to acquire easements on agricultural land.

Program Funds Available Per Capita

Program funds available per capita are based on state population figures for 2005 from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Outstanding Applications

Backlog of applications reported by program administrators.

Funding Sources

Sources of funding for each program. "Transportation funding" refers to federal money disbursed under The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA) of 2005 and its predecessors for "transportation enhancements." Easement acquisitions that protect scenic views and historic sites along transportation routes are eligible for these funds. The "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
California				
California Farmland Conservancy Program	1995/1997	100	32,727	\$44,160,000 ^
Colorado				
Great Outdoors Colorado Δ	1992/1995	160	244,584	\$77,935,213 ^
Connecticut				
Connecticut Farmland Preservation Program	1978/1979	220	30,750	\$88,279,632 ^
Delaware				
Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation *	1991/1996	442	79,955	\$88,674,323 ^
Georgia				
Georgia Land Conservation Program	2005/NA	0	0	\$0
Kentucky				
Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement Corporation *	1994/1998	111	23,209	\$11,067,920
Maine				
Farmland Protection Program	1999/1990	19	5,950	\$4,109,376
Maryland				
<i>Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation *</i>	1977/1980	1,750	241,806	\$241,708,157
<i>Rural Legacy</i>	1997/1999	280	47,633	\$113,585,967 ^
Massachusetts				
Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program	1977/1980	655	57,221	\$146,798,621 ^
Michigan				
The Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program	1974/1994	78	17,022	\$26,089,603 ^
Montana				
Montana Agricultural Heritage Program ×	1999/2000	8	9,923	\$888,000
New Hampshire				
<i>Agricultural Lands Preservation Program ×</i>	1979/1980	31	2,864	\$5,000,000
<i>Land Conservation Investment Program ×</i>	1987/1988	36	6,232	\$5,349,008
<i>Land & Community Heritage Investment Program</i>	2000/2001	21	2,749	\$3,454,300 ^
New Jersey				
The New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program	1983/1985	1,313	140,553	\$471,935,846
New York				
New York State Farmland Protection Implementation Grants	1996/1998	95	17,532	\$42,487,327 ^
North Carolina				
Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund *	1986/1999	33	4,247	\$2,384,500 ^
Ohio				
<i>Ohio Agricultural Easement Program *</i>	1999/1999	108	20,310	\$15,600,000
<i>Southern Ohio Tobacco Agricultural Easement Purchase Program ×</i>	2002/2002	14	3,000	\$0
Pennsylvania				
The Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program *	1988/1989	2,783	318,350	\$513,553,278 ^
Rhode Island				
Purchase of Farmland Development Rights Program	1981/1985	66	4,841	\$19,361,425
South Carolina				
South Carolina Conservation Bank	2002/2004	13	3,070	\$3,325,245
Utah				
<i>Critical Agricultural Land Conservation Fund</i>	1999/2001	2	29	\$139,000
<i>LeRay McAllister Critical Lands Conservation Fund</i>	1999/2000	24	46,546	\$6,920,122
Vermont				
Vermont Housing and Conservation Board	1987/1987	389	113,000	\$44,700,000 ^
STATE TOTALS		8,751	1,474,103	\$1,977,506,863

STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2006

Additional Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Program Funds Available Per Capita	Outstanding Applications	Funding Sources	
\$37,519,000	\$15,000,000	\$0.42	12	Appropriations, bonds, private contributions, FRPP	
\$148,417,205	\$6,600,000 □	\$1.41	16	Local government contributions, portion of lottery proceeds, FRPP	
\$2,191,377	\$8,000,000	\$2.28	110	Bonds, local government contributions, recording fees, FRPP	
\$15,372,365	\$13,600,387	\$16.12	106	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, portion of lawsuit settlement, private/foundation contributions, property transfer tax, transportation funding, FRPP	
\$0	\$5,100,000	\$0.56	0	Appropriations, clean water state revolving funds, private/foundation contributions	
\$5,964,275	\$400,000	\$0.09	616	Appropriations, bonds, tobacco settlement funds, FRPP	
\$4,277,663	\$4,641,012	\$3.51	35	Appropriations, bonds, credit card royalties, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP	
\$124,495,166	\$56,521,705	\$10.09	142	<i>Agricultural transfer tax, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, FRPP</i>	
\$117,125,739	\$42,500,000	\$7.59	117		
\$7,369,427	\$14,021,705 □	\$2.50	25		<i>Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, federal wetlands conservation funds</i>
\$34,277,077	\$7,750,000	\$1.21	95	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, transportation funding, FRPP	
\$3,980,965	\$745,059	\$0.07	15	Local government contributions, private/foundation contributions, repayment of tax credits by landowners withdrawing from the state's circuit breaker program, FRPP	
\$1,420,710	\$0	\$0.00	N/A	Appropriations, FRPP	
\$11,112,890	\$750,000	\$0.57	4	<i>Appropriations, local government contributions, FRPP</i>	
\$140,000	\$0	\$0.00	0		
N/A	\$0	\$0.00	0		<i>Bonds</i>
\$10,972,890	\$750,000	\$0.57	4		<i>Appropriations, FRPP</i>
\$247,046,216	\$141,655,464	\$16.25	529	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, portion of state sales and use tax, private/foundation contributions, FRPP	
\$22,177,430	\$16,000,000	\$0.83	39	Bonds, local government contributions, property transfer tax, FRPP	
\$26,000,000	\$0	\$0.00	2	Appropriations, FRPP	
\$8,400,000	\$5,520,000	\$0.48	1,105	<i>Bonds, FRPP</i>	
\$6,900,000	\$5,520,000	\$0.48	1,105		
\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0.00	0		<i>Tobacco settlement funds</i>
\$224,723,985	\$102,000,000	\$8.21	2,000	Appropriations, bonds, cigarette tax, interest on securities, local government contributions, FRPP	
\$15,025,352	\$2,000,000	\$1.86	30	Appropriations, bonds, local government, private contributions, property transfer tax, FRPP	
\$11,924,655	\$15,250,000 □	\$3.58	2	Recording fees	
\$27,353,793	\$3,432,600	\$1.39	1	<i>Appropriations, FRPP</i>	
\$166,000	\$50,000	\$0.02	1		
\$27,187,793	\$3,382,600 □	\$1.37	0		<i>Appropriations, local government contributions, private/foundation contributions, FRPP</i>
\$51,800,000	\$2,100,000	\$3.37	50	Appropriations, bonds, Farms for the Future pilot program, local government contributions, private/foundation contributions, property transfer tax, transportation funding, FRPP	
\$1,023,480,124	\$407,066,227		4,909		

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

STATUS OF

STATE PACE

PROGRAMS

NOTES

[Δ] Program activity includes fee simple acquisitions of agricultural land. Great Outdoors Colorado grant recipients are required to resell land acquired in fee subject to a conservation easement.

[*] Program figures are more current than January 2006.

[X] Program has terminated or is no longer acquiring agricultural conservation easements.

[□] “Program Funds Available” includes money 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.