

FARMLAND IMPLEMENTATION PROTECTION GRANT ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST AND PREAPPLICATION 2009

OTSEGO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD
c/o Otsego County Planning Director
197 Main Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

Farm Name: _____
Owner(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Tax Parcel Number(s): _____
Agricultural District(s): _____

Contact Information:

Contact Person: _____
Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____
Fax: _____
E-mail : _____

Directions to farm from the nearest highway and road intersection:

PREAPPLICATION DEADLINE
MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 30TH

Mail To: Otsego County Planning Department
197 Main Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

This form is for advisory purposes only. The Otsego County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board has the authority to submit applications relative to "Agricultural and Farmland Protection Projects Involving the Purchase of Development Rights" to the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Office Use Only
Date Received _____

Total Points _____

**FARMLAND PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION GRANT
ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST 2009**

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible to participate in a County supported Purchase of Development Rights program, the participant must meet the following criteria. Please answer all.

	Yes	No	N/A
1. Is the property or set of properties in an Otsego County Agricultural District or is the owner in the process of applying for inclusion in an Agricultural district? (If yes, please identify the district(s). _____) Or has the property owner made an individual 8 year commitment for an agricultural value assessment on the property?			
2. Does the property have at least 50% USDA “Prime Soils”, “Prime Soils if Drained”, and “Soils of Statewide Significance”? See list on page 3, If uncertain, contact the Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District at 607-547-8337.			
3. Does the property have a Soil Conservation and Water Quality Plan, Forest Management Plan, Nutrient Management Plan? If uncertain, contact the Otsego County Soil & Water Conservation District at 607-547-8337.			
4. Does any local zoning within any of the property or set of properties allow for residential, commercial or industrial development?			
5. Are the physical characteristics (gentle slopes, good soils, good drainage, extensive road frontage) of the property or set of properties conducive to residential, commercial, or industrial development?			
6. Is the property or set of properties larger than 100 acres in size? If not, is the property or set of properties contiguous to permanently protected land? Permanently protected land means lands protected by conservation easements, state or county parks, or state or federal wetlands.			
7. Is the property in good standing with local tax authorities (i.e. Village, Town, County, or School)?			

If all the answers to the questions above are “Yes” or “N/A”, you qualify for the program. Please continue and complete the attached preapplication form.

If you answered “No” to any of the above questions, your property is not eligible for this program.

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PART I. - Property Information

Please provide the following information on the property or set of properties to be considered:

1a. Check the business organization that applies:

Sole Proprietorship Partnership Corporation
 Limited Liability Partnership Limited Liability Corporation Other (explain)

1b. Name of sole proprietor: _____

1c. Name of partners or names of corporate officers and their titles:

1d. Does the applicant currently reside on the property? Yes No

1e. Please provide tax parcel numbers, owner, acreage and location of all sets of properties to be considered:

Tax Parcel Number	Owner Name	Acreage	Parcel Address	Parcel Municipality
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

1f. Does the property contain any easements, leases or right-of-ways? (includes wind turbines, natural gas, electric utilities) Please describe type and number of acres encumbered:

**PART II. –
Farm Characteristics:**

Points
For office
use only

Please check all that apply:

2a. Soil Quality: (Maximum 30 points)

Please be sure to make this determination based on a soils map, see list on page 3 (“Prime Soils if Drained can only be counted if the fields have been drained)

	Acres	Percent of Total <small>(soil acreage/total property acreage)</small>
Total Property:		100%
Prime Soils:		
Prime if Drained:		
Soils of Statewide Importance:		



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State Road, but is on a dirt or seasonal access road. (3 pts)
____ Farm operation is on a dirt or seasonal access road and greater than
5 miles from a County or State Road. (2 pts)

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2g. Significant natural resources near project site. (maximum 15 pts)

____ Project is within or adjacent to a lake watershed, wetland, state forest or park or
significant environmental resources. (10 pts) Please identify: _____
____ Project is adjacent to a protected trout stream.
Please identify _____ (5pts)
For information contact DEC Bureau of Fisheries 518-402-8920

10
5

PART III.

Farm Narrative (maximum points 7) Note – for reviewers of – for ease of scoring the 7 points is based on the seven bullets below, which may earn 1 points each.

Please attach a one-page description of the farming operation. Please try to address each bullet, if applicable, to earn maximum points:

- Type of farming
- Productivity (quantities of milk, meat, vegetables, crops, etc.)
- Economic/Revenues
- How the farm will continue to operate
- Programs the farm participates in (such as CREP)
- Awards or certifications the farm may have received
- Scenic, Cultural or historic significance

Reviewers will look for evidence of good farm management, environmental stewardship, and a level of commitment to land preservation.

Discretionary Points (maximum of 24 points)

At the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board’s discretion, it may award up to 24 point to an applicant’s ranking score based on qualitative considerations or specific localized conditions at the time of the application. The rationale for awarding such points should be clearly delineated and may include factors such as but not limited to:

- Consistency of application with County, town and municipal land use plans.
- Operational continuity
- Exceptional scenic value
- Critical economic factors
- Cultural or historic significance

National Resource Conservation Service Agricultural Soils include:

Prime Soils: BfB, CfA, CfB, ChA, ChB, CnA, CnB, CsB, DaB, Hb, HeA, HeB, HnB, HrB, LaB, LeB, LfB, LkB, LoB, MnB, Ot, RIA, RIB, SbB, ScA, ScB, TkB, UnA, UnB, VaB, VcB, WeA, WeB

Prime if Drained: DeB, GrB, MaA, MaB, Ra, Re, RhA, Wb

Soils of Statewide Importance: At, BfC, Cb, Chc, CsC, DeC, FaB, HnC, HrC, LaC, LeC, LfC, LhC, LkC, LpC, MaC, McB, McC, MeB, MeC, MmC, MoB, MoC, ObB, ObC, OeG, OeC, OgB, OgC, PdB, ThB, TkC, TpC, VaC, VIB, VIC, VoA, VoB, VoC, WeC, WIB, WIC, WpB, WpC, WsB, WsC

Please be sure to calculate the percentage of prime soils and soils of statewide importance so that you can answer question 2a correctly.

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Note: Pre-proposal requires the following maps and documents to be submitted with the application.

- **Tax map** with the project parcels identified, available at the County Real Property Tax Department, or from www.otsegocounty.com/mapping/online.
- **Aerial photo maps**, available at the County Real Property Tax Department, or www.otsegocounty.com/mapping/online.
- **Topographic map** (USGS or NYS DOT) large enough to show farm and any significant scenic locations (such as Otsego Lake, Canadarago Lake, or Scenic By-Way Rt 20), contact the Otsego County Planning Dept or <http://www.nysgis.state.ny.us/gisdata/quads/drg24/index.htm>
- **Soils Maps**, available at the Otsego County Soil and Water Conservation District office or from <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>. Please determine the percentages of USDA “Prime Soils”, “Prime Soils if Drained”, and “Soils of Statewide Significance” prior to submission. “Prime Soils if Drained” can only be counted if the field has been tilled or otherwise drained. See list on Page 3.

If you have questions pertaining with the pre-application please contact one of following:

Otsego County Planning Department	607-547-4225
Otsego Land Trust	607-547-2366

If you have questions pertaining to soils and or parcel information please contact one of the following departments:

Otsego County Real Property Tax Department	607-547-4222
Otsego County Soil and Water Conservation District	607-547-8337

NOTE: This section must be completed to process the pre-application.

“I certify that the information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.”

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Signature of person completing the pre-application)

If there are multiple owners of the parcels included in this application, all owners must sign below:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

The NYS program for the Purchase of Development Rights pays up to 75% of the value of the development rights on farm property.