



**Crawford County Agricultural  
Land Preservation Program**

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Land Preservation Program**

Crawford County Conservation District  
Woodcock Creek Nature Center  
21742 German Road  
Meadville, PA 16335

Phone: (814) 763-5269

[www.crawfordconservation.org](http://www.crawfordconservation.org)

[www.pafarmland.org](http://www.pafarmland.org)

[www.agriculture.state.pa.us](http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us)



**Agricultural  
Security Areas**

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## What is an Agricultural Security Area (ASA)?

Agricultural Security Areas are created by township governments in cooperation with local landowners. These areas promote more permanent and viable farming operations over the long term. Agricultural Security Areas help strengthen the farming community's sense of security in land use and their right to farm.

## What are the benefits of being in an ASA?

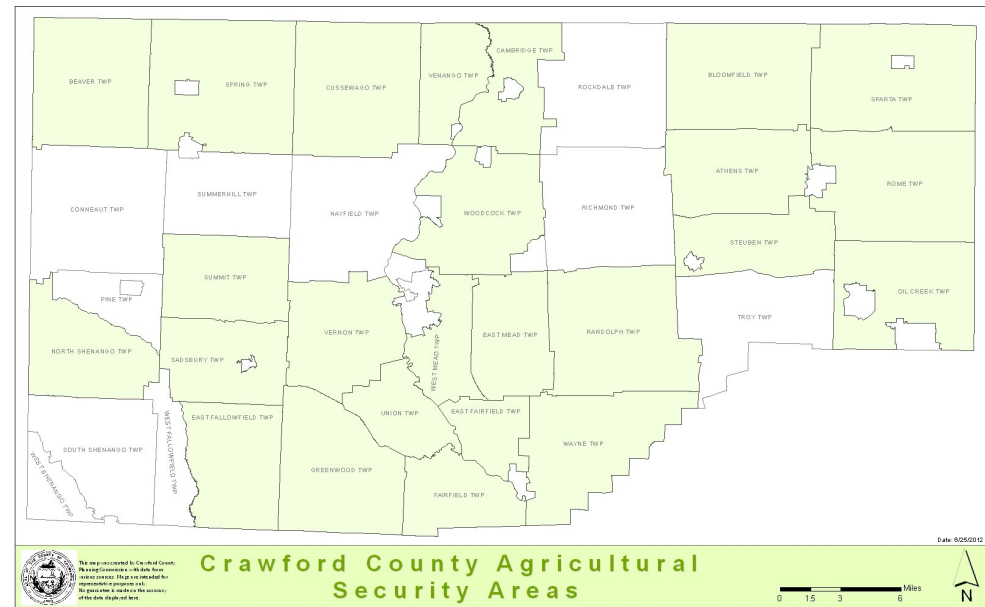
1. Townships agree to support agriculture by not passing nuisance laws which would restrict normal farming operations.
2. Limitations are placed on the ability of government to condemn farmland in an Agricultural Security Area for schools, high-ways, parks, etc.
3. Landowners that are part of a 500 acre or larger ASA may be eligible to apply to sell a perpetual conservation easement (also known as selling the development rights) to Crawford County and/or the Commonwealth of PA

Having land enrolled in an ASA in no way restricts a landowner's use of property, but it does provide protection to farm operations.

## Is my property eligible?

To be eligible, working farms must meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 10 acres in size if parcels are noncontiguous
- Be viable agricultural land
- Have at least 50% of the land in Soil Capability Classes I-IV
- Be within a zoning district that permits agricultural use, but the zoning need not exclude other uses



## How do I enroll in an ASA?

Submit a petition for enrollment in the ASA to the township supervisors. The petition must include your signature, address, tax parcel numbers, and the number of acres of each parcel; it should also be submitted to the township by certified mail return receipt.

The supervisors acknowledge the receipt of the petition at a public meeting, publish a notice in the newspaper, and post notices in the township stating that a petition has been received. Following a review process, the township supervisors can take action to adopt the ASA modification or reject it. If the modification is adopted, a description of the Area will be filed with the County Register and Records Office, the township, and the county planning commission. If the supervisors fail to act on a petition within 180 days of its submission, the proposed modification is automatically adopted.

## Can I remove my land from an ASA?

Every seven years ASA's shall be reviewed, re-established or terminated. Deletion of land from an ASA may only occur during a township review process.