



Crawford County Agricultural Land Preservation Program

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Crawford County Conservation District
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www.crawfordconservation.org

www.pafarmland.org

www.agriculture.state.pa.us



How to Preserve Your Farm

**Crawford County Agricultural
Land Preservation Program**

To be eligible for the program, your farm must:

- Be located in an Agricultural Security Area
- Be at least 50 acres in size or 10 acres if a unique crop
- Have at least 50% of the property actively farmed
- Have at least 50% of the land in Soil Capability Class I-IV (better soils for agricultural production)
- Be used as part of a normal farming operation that generates an annual gross greater than \$25,000.



The Preservation Process

1. If you have not done so already, enroll your property in an Agricultural Security Area.
2. Submit an application to the Crawford County Agricultural Land Preservation Program.
3. All of the applications are then ranked by the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment System on the following factors:
 - Soil Quality - 50% of Ranking
 - Score Development
 - Potential-15% Farmland
 - Potential-20% Clustering
 - Potential-15%
4. If the property receives a high ranking, an appraisal will be ordered, for which the landowner pays a \$2500.00 potentially refundable fee to the County Board. The appraisal determines the compensation to be given to the landowner for the preservation of the farm.
5. An offer is made to the landowner after the appraisal is reviewed by the County board. The limit is \$1000 per acre.
6. A Boundary Survey is conducted if needed.
7. A Conservation Plan is prepared for the landowner if needed.
8. The property is presented to the State and/or County Board for Approval.
9. Landowner receives compensation and a Deed of Agricultural Conservation Easement is signed.

The entire preservation process, from the time you apply to the time of actual settlement, can take 18 to 24 months, if your farm is selected for preservation.