

Cayuga County Pre-Application
for
New York State's
Farmland Protection Implementation
Grants Program
2009

PURPOSE

In response to growing interest among local farmers in the State's Farmland Protection Implementation Grants (FPIG) Program, **Cayuga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB)** has adopted a pre-application process in order to review and select farmland protection projects to compete at the State level for FPIG grant funds.

PROCESS

The AFPB will review and rank pre-applications, and will select those proposals that may advance to the next stage. Applicants of pre-applications chosen by the Board will have authorization to proceed with development of a full application, to be submitted by the Board to the State. AFPB review criteria reflect the State's FPIG Program priorities.

PRE-APPLICATION DEADLINE

Pre-applications **must be received** by Cayuga County Planning Department on or before **Monday April 27th, 2009**. Mail or hand-deliver (1) original to:

Cayuga County Department of Planning & Economic Development
160 Genesee Street, 5th Floor
Auburn, New York 13021
ATTN: Geoff Milz

REVIEW & SELECTION

County Planning staff will undergo a preliminary review and ranking of FPIG applications based on established criteria. The top ranking applications will be presented to the AFPB for final review and selection. A meeting date has not yet been established, but will be announced publicly through the press. The Board will select proposals to advance to the next stage at this meeting. The AFPB will consider all criteria in its evaluation including farm viability, development pressure and environmental benefit indicators.

STATE DEADLINE

At this time, New York State has not issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Farmland Protection Program. Although there is no guarantee that funding will be made available this year, we are initiating the pre-application process now so that approved applicants may have maximum amount of time to prepare full proposals once the RFP is issued.

MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Geoff Milz, Planner, Cayuga County Department of Planning & Economic Development, (315-253-1276) with any questions or concerns about the Pre-Application. Please contact Judy Wright, American Farmland Trust consultant (315-255-2508) with any questions or concerns about the State or Federal Farmland Protection Program.

For more information on the County's Farmland Protection Program, please visit us online at:
<http://www.co.cayuga.ny.us/planning/farmland>

CAYUGA COUNTY FARMLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM PRE-APPLICATION

1) Owner Name(s) _____

2) Name of Farm _____

3) Mailing Address _____

4) Phone _____ 5) Email _____

6) Nature of farm operation _____

7a) No. of Acres Owned _____

7b) No. of Acres Tillable _____

7c) No. of Acres to be Protected for Crop and/or Livestock Production _____

7d) Do you anticipate excluding any future building lots? _____ Yes _____ No

If so, how many and total number of acres? _____.

8) Please list tax map ID numbers for all parcels included in your FPIG proposal, as well as all individuals/entities with ownership interest in those parcels. **ALL OWNERS MUST SIGN THIS PRE-APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE AFPB.**

TAX MAP ID NUMBERS _____

OWNERS _____

Attach additional pages if necessary.

9) Is your farm located within an agricultural district? _____ Yes _____ No

9a) If yes, please list the district number _____.

10) Have you subdivided any parcel in the past five (5) years? _____ Yes _____ No

10a) If yes, what were the circumstances of subdividing the property?

11) Describe the nature of land use adjacent to your farm, including a description of the level of farm and non-farm activity occurring within a 1-mile radius of your farm.

12) Please describe your level of farm management. Do you have a nutrient management plan? Have you participated in Cayuga County Soil & Water Conservation District programs? What other activities have you undertaken that demonstrate best practices in farm management?

13) Please describe major investments you have made in your farm to date, such as barns, irrigation, fruit trees, drainage tile, manure storage, etc. Include dates of investment.

14) Please describe any gas leases, current easements, underground pipeline, buried cables, and right-of-ways located on the property.

15) Have you completed Tier 1 and Tier 2 of the State's Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program (required)? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes please list the dates of completion for Tiers 1 and 2 _____.

If no, you are not eligible to apply to the County's Farmland Protection Program. The Cayuga County Soil and Water Conservation District provides Tier 1 and Tier 2 AEM services at no cost to the landowner. Please contact the District at (315) 252-4171 to go through this process prior to submission of the pre-application or supplement. In extenuating circumstances, exceptions *may* be made. Please contact Geoff Milz at Cayuga County Dept. of Planning and Economic Development, (315) 253-1276, to discuss further. If your land is selected for the County's application, you must complete Tier 3 of the AEM Program prior to the State's application deadline.

16) Please explain briefly why you would like to include your farm in the State's PDR Program.

17) Please describe your plans for farm succession _____

18) List the public roads your farm fronts, and the number of feet of frontage for each:

19) What is the proximity of your farm to public water? _____

20) What is the proximity of your farm to public sewer? _____

21) Does your farm provide access to, or is it part of, a scenic vista? If yes, please describe:

22) Please describe the development pressure around your farm. If possible, quantify with number of subdivisions, building permits, new home construction in your area over the past several years.

23) Is your farm located within a public water source area (includes watersheds, reservoirs, aquifers and other water recharge areas)? If yes, please describe:

24) Does your farm front a stream, river, lake, or other surface water body? If yes, please describe, and provide the number of feet of frontage for each water body:

25) Is your farm located within a floodplain or does it contain wetlands? If yes, please describe. Please provide the number of acres of wetland if applicable.

26) Does your farm serve as a **buffer** to a significant natural resource? If yes, please describe. (e.g. maintaining vegetative buffer strips or no-till zones along stream corridors; providing buffer to adjacent parkland; etc.)

26a) If you were selected by the State to receive a FPIG award would you be willing to construct a vegetative buffer for each stream, creek or ditch running through your property? _____ Yes _____ No

27) Have you initiated conversation with a land trust (e.g. NY Agricultural Land Trust, Finger Lakes Land Trust) to discuss holding the conservation easement on your property? _____yes _____no

27a) Name of person you've been working with_____

27b) Name of land trust organization_____

28) Local Match: NYS Farmland Protection Program will fund up to 75% of the value of development rights on farmland. Typically, farmers will commit to a "bargain sale" of their development rights, meaning that they will accept 75% of the value from the state, and assume the remaining 25% as an in-kind contribution. Please indicate your willingness to assume 25% of the value of development rights on your farm.

I will provide the required 25% local match through bargain sale of my development rights _____.

I will not provide the required 25% local match through bargain sale of my development rights _____.

Certification: I (we) certify that all information presented in this pre-application is, to the best of my (our) knowledge, accurate and true.

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

Pre-applications must be received by Monday, April 27th, 2009.