



Farmland Preservation Connection



Farmland Preservation Program Update

June 8, 2015 marked the 30th anniversary of the first five farms permanently preserved in the state. The proposed housing development was known as "Chesterfield Commons". At this time, Farmland Preservation staff would like to take time to acknowledge the many hands that helped save the first five farms and approximately 240 more farms from development. Support from the Burlington County Board

of Chosen Freeholders, County Agricultural Development Board members, officials at the state and local levels, and of course the landowners have made this program the success that it has become. As the County's Farmland Preservation Program has progressed over the years, it has become a nationally-recognized program with more than 28,000 acres preserved through joint efforts between the

State Agriculture Development Committee, local municipalities, and the United States Department of Defense. We are proud to report that over 1,000 additional acres are currently "in application". This new acreage will bring the County's totals to approximately 30,000 acres by the end of 2016.

30th Anniversary Celebration

The 30th Anniversary of the Farmland Preservation Program was marked by a juried art exhibit, an exhibit of the history of agriculture in Burlington County, and a gala celebration held at Historic Smithville Park on June 13th. All those who played a role in the 30 year history of the program, owners of preserved farms, elected officials, and artists were invited to attend the celebration which coincided with the opening of the art and history exhibits. The art work captured the unique beauty of over 50 preserved farms located in the County as seen through the eyes of talented local artists. Artists generously donated pieces of art that were auctioned during the event with proceeds going to Farmers Against Hunger. Select pieces of the exhibit are now on display at the Community Agricultural Center through the



Freeholder Joe Donnelly during the 30th Anniversary Celebration on June 13th.

end of October. The history exhibit, "Rooted in Agriculture", traces the rich history of farming in Burlington County from the Native Americans to food trends of today. The exhibit is now at the Lyceum of History and Natural Sciences in Mt. Holly and will be there through the end of the year. Finally, attendees were

treated to a sneak preview of the documentary that County staff is preparing on the history of agriculture. The documentary will tell the story of agriculture in Burlington County through personal interviews with multiple generations of our farming families.

Burlington County Farm-land Preservation Program

Department of Resource Conservation
856-642-3850

Mailing Address PO Box 6000 Mount Holly, NJ 08060-6000	Physical Address 624 Pemberton - Browns Mills Rd Pemberton, NJ
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Mission

The Burlington County Farmland Preservation Program exists to advance the quality of life in Burlington County by preserving a permanent agricultural land base and by maintaining a regulatory environment that supports a viable agricultural economy.

Vision Statement

The Burlington County FPP envisions a future in which a strong and dynamic agricultural industry persists and contributes to the enhanced quality of life of all Burlington County residents.

Goals

1. The preservation of an additional 20,000 acres
2. Stewardship of protected land and natural resources
3. Promotion and Protection of Right to Farm
4. Coordination of Land Use Planning Activities
5. Implementation of public sector agriculture economic development strategies
6. Coordination of public sector agricultural services

2015 Burlington County Agriculture Development Board

Phillip D. Prickett Chair	Judy Shaw Vice Chair
Farmer Members	Public Members
Robert Eckert	Louis DeLorenzo
John M. Hlubik	John Logue
Peter Johnson	Timothy Lutz
Paul Shinn	Lisa Post
D. Todd Wilkinson	
Lawrence Kuser (Alternate Member)	

Ex-Officio Members

Raymond Samulis Thomas Budd
Edward Fox

The CADB meets the second Thursday of every other month (7:00/7:30pm) at the Rutgers Extension Office in Westampton.

Role of the County Agriculture Development Board

The Burlington County Agriculture Development Board (CADB) consists of 12 voting members, six public and six farmer members and three ex-officio non-voting members. The CADB is an agricultural advisory committee to the County Board of Chosen Freeholders. As agriculture and legislation changes, so do the CADB's duties and responsibilities. The Board also establishes criteria for farmland preservation, hears Right to Farm (RTF) cases, provides comment on laws affecting agriculture, and provides guidance to Farmland Preservation Program Staff on selection of farms to be enrolled.

Special Occasion Events at Wineries on Preserved Farms

On July 2, 2014, the NJ Legislature approved a new law that allows licensed wineries to conduct certain "Special Occasion Events" on preserved farms. These special occasion events are allowed so long as they promote agricultural tourism activities and events. There are limits to the scope and scale of such events as well as income limitations. In addition, the law is a pilot program that will expire after a 44 month term unless the legislature takes further action. The law specifically defines "Special Occasion Events" as weddings, lifetime milestone events, or other cultural or social events as defined by the appropriate County Agriculture Development Board. To date, Burlington County has no licensed wineries operating on preserved farms. More information can be found on the NJ State Agriculture Development Committee website:

<http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/sadc/news/hottopics/index.html>

On-Farm Direct Marketing Agricultural Management Practice

Adopted on April 7th, 2014, the On-Farm Direct Marketing Agricultural Management Practice (AMP) establishes performance-based standards for farms seeking Right to Farm protection for their direct marketing:

- Facilities—Farm stands, markets, wagons and other structures
- Activities— Agriculture related educational, recreational and entertainment type activities
- Events— Harvest festival, open houses, and farm-to-table type events

It is important to note that these facilities, activities and events must be designed to enhance direct farmer-to-consumer sales of the agricultural output of the farm. The intent of the AMP is to provide statewide standards on which farmers, municipalities and the public can rely, while also providing flexibility to farm owners and operators. For more information or a copy of the AMP please contact the Farmland Preservation Program Staff at 856-642-3850 or email Farmland@co.burlington.nj.us.

2014 Burlington County Farm Stewardship Award

Every year Burlington County recognizes an owner of preserved farmland who has demonstrated a commitment to maintaining their farm as a productive, viable, and well-managed resource. The Burlington County Farmland Preservation Stewardship Award was created in honor of the Burlington County Agriculture Development Board's (CADB)

first Chairman and his wife, William and Dorothy Pettit, in recognition of their exemplary commitment to farm stewardship and over 25 years of service to the Farmland Preservation Program. The CADB is proud to announce this year's winner, James & Ruth Bauma, for their farm on Jacksonville Road in Springfield Township. The farm has been in the Bauma Family



Bill Bauma accepting award from Chairman Prickett on behalf of his brother and sister-in-law, James & Ruth Bauma



James & Ruth Bauma Farm, Springfield Township, Winner of the 2014 Burlington County Stewardship Award.

for 55 years, is typically in soybean and hay production, and is currently managed by James' brother, Bill Bauma. Congratulations James & Ruth! Recent Winners of the award include: 2013 - Charles Howard of Mansfield Township, 2012 - Jack & Patricia Homa of Chesterfield Township, 2011 - David and Doris Wilkinson of North Hanover Township, 2010 - The Kumpel Family of Southampton Township. Thank you to all the great stewards for your dedication and hard work in taking care of our precious agricultural resources in Burlington County.

2016 Farmland Preservation Program Round Applications

Burlington County is planning to accept new applications for enrollment in the County's Farmland Preservation Program in early 2016. As part of our ongoing efforts to preserve farms that are the most agriculturally productive and that face the most likely chance of future development, the County adopted criteria to identify those farms through our Acquisition Targeting List (ATL).

Landowners that are listed on the ATL will receive letters of interest from the County in early February. They will be provided with basic information about the program and a link to the county website, which provides the application, supplemental information and staff contact information.

The County Agriculture Development Board will be

reviewing these applications at their May 12, 2016 meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact Brian Wilson, Burlington County Farmland Preservation Program Coordinator at 856-642-3850 or to find out more information about the program please visit the County's website:

www.co.burlington.nj.us/farmland



Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Farmland Preservation Program Farm Signs

Sign for barn or market installation



Sign along the road

How Many? _____

How Many? _____

100th FARM PRESERVED
97 ACRES

Please fill in the following information if you are interested in a Farmland Preservation Program Sign. Only owners of permanently preserved farms through the Burlington County program are eligible.

Name _____

Phone _____

Burlington County Farmland Preservation Program

Attn: Danielle Weiden
Department of Resource Conservation
P.O. Box 6000
Mount Holly, NJ 08060-6000

Please tear along dotted line and mail back to the address to the above right.

Burlington County Farmland Preservation Program

Department of Resource Conservation
P.O. Box 6000
Mount Holly, NJ 08060-6000



Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Mary Ann C. O'Brien, Director
Aimee R. Belgard
Joseph B. Donnelly
Bruce D. Garganio
Joanne Schwartz