

# CAYUGA COUNTY

## Pre-Application for New York State's Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Program

2021

**PURPOSE:**

This pre-application has been prepared by the Cayuga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) in response to the interest from local farmers in the State’s Farmland Protection Implementation Grants (FPIG) Program. This pre-application will be used as a tool to gauge the viability of projects and to select farmland protection projects for State level FPIG grant funds. The AFPB reserves the right to reject applications deemed incomplete.

**PROCESS:**

Once pre-applications have been received, members of the Cayuga County AFPB will review and score each farm project using criteria developed by the Board that aligns with the State’s scoring criteria. Applicants will be required to meet with County Planning staff briefly to identify both the Farmstead Area (agricultural buildings and area for future expansion) and any areas for Exclusion on a map in order to move on to the AFPB review.

The AFPB will utilize the scoring process and other relevant information to select one or more farm projects to receive the Board’s endorsement for the FPIG program and to move on to the next stage of application.

Land trusts in CNY like the New York Agricultural Land Trust (NYALT) and the Finger Lakes Land Trust (FLLT) will review copies of AFPB supported pre-applications and determine which farms they would like to work with. The land trust will then contact property owners directly to prepare the final application to the State. Cayuga County will maintain a “pool” of supported farm pre-applications for the land trusts to choose from as funding from NYS becomes available.

Farms will not need to submit a pre-application to the county each year. Only those farms who have not yet applied may submit a pre-application during the annual window. Farms that previously applied will be able to submit updated information though (e.g. parcels purchased or sold, change in farm type/operation, etc.).

**PRE-APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**

RETURN COMPLETED PRE-APPLICATIONS BY **DECEMBER 1, 2021** TO:

**Kari Terwilliger, Senior Planner**  
**Cayuga County Department of Planning & Economic Development**  
**160 Genesee Street; 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Auburn, New York 13021**

In order to meet the submission deadline, fully completed pre-applications must be received:

- Via mail, must be postmarked by Monday November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Via hand-delivery, by 4:00pm on Wednesday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to Kari Terwilliger at the address above
- Via email, by 4:00pm on Wednesday December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to [kterwilliger@cayugacounty.us](mailto:kterwilliger@cayugacounty.us) (*Kari will email you to confirm we have received your emailed pre-application. If you do not receive a receipt email, please contact her.*)

Questions about the pre-application? Contact Kari Terwilliger at (315) 253-1485 or [kterwilliger@cayugacounty.us](mailto:kterwilliger@cayugacounty.us)

**NOTES:**

Applicants to the State's FPIG program, such as land trusts, are limited in the total number of farm applications they can submit per round of funding. The AFPB cannot guarantee the number of projects located in Cayuga County that will be selected by a land trust to be submitted to the State, or when those selections may occur.

Some questions inquire as to the status of plans or other documents pertaining to the farm operation, but are not required to be attached to this pre-application.

In addition to the pre-application to be submitted by the applicant, the Board shall ask the Cayuga County Department of Planning & Economic Development (CCPED) to provide parcel data and mapping information as part of the review process, to include: aerial photographs, tax maps, soil classification data, agricultural district enrollment, natural resources/protected lands data, and housing and infrastructure data from various cited sources. CCPED will assemble this information after pre-applications are submitted and incorporate it prior to initial review by the AFPB. Information in the pre-application will be used by land trusts to prepare the final State application. Pre-applications found to be incomplete will not be reviewed or scored by the AFPB.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Beginning in 2008, the AFPB began requiring that all landowners applying for State funding for farmland protection MUST have completed a Tier 1 and Tier 2 worksheet in the State's Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program in order to be eligible. The AFPB stands behind this decision today and maintains this eligibility requirement for landowners. 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. CCPED staff will verify with CCSWCD staff that all applicants have completed both a Tier 1 and a Tier 2 worksheet.

The AFPB also requires that all applicable property taxes (county, town, school, etc.) are current (paid in full or in good standing in a payment plan with the county) on all parcels listed in this pre-application in order for the applicant to be eligible for funding. CCPED staff will verify this information with the County Treasurer's Office.

Additionally, landowners may only request funding for agricultural parcels that they own in their pre-application and subsequently in their application to the State if they are chosen. While this application does ask about land that is rented by a farmer in addition to what they may own, in order for the AFPB to understand the true size of their farm operation and impact on the agricultural economy in Cayuga County, the State will only award protection funds for parcels that are legally owned, not additional lands that are rented. If you have questions about your eligibility for this pre-application process please contact Kari Terwilliger in the Planning Department (contact information on previous page).

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ):**

To view a list of frequently asked questions, with answers, please visit the Cayuga County Planning Department's website <http://www.cayugacounty.us/693/Purchase-of-Development-Rights>

**CAYUGA COUNTY  
PRE-APPLICATION  
NYS FARMLAND PROTECTION GRANTS (PDR)  
2021**

FARM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FARM LOCATION: TOWN(S) OF \_\_\_\_\_

FARM CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT INFO:**

Person completing pre-application: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) certify that all information presented in the pre-application is, to the best of my (our) knowledge accurate and true. (Signatures should include person completing application and owners of the property. Use additional sheets if necessary)

a. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

b. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

c. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

d. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Attach additional sheets if necessary

1. **Have you recently, in the past 5 years, gone through the Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) planning process?** *(This information will be verified with the County Soil & Water Conservation District)*       Yes       No

Which level? Check below

Tier 1

Tier 2

Tier 3

2. **Have any of the following plans been implemented on your farm?** (Check all that apply)

Tier 3 AEM

Prescribed Grazing Plan

Orchard or Vineyard Plan

Whole Farm Plan

Concentrated Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)

Comments:

3. **How many total acres are included in your farm business?**

Total Acres I (we) own \_\_\_\_\_.

Total Acres I (we) rent or lease from others \_\_\_\_\_.

4. **How many productive acres (tillable, orchard, crop and improved pasture) do you own?** \_\_\_\_\_

5. **How is your farm business organized? Check organization type that applies and fill in the blanks.**

Sole Proprietorship

Partnership

Limited Liability Partnership

Corporation

Limited Liability Corporation

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name of sole proprietor: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of partners or names of corporate officers and their titles:



**8. Do you lease any of the project parcels to other farmers? If yes, please identify the affected parcels, the acreage leased, name of the lessee(s), and the purpose/use and length of lease.**

Yes     No

**9. Please briefly describe the history of the farm business. Focus on the most recent 50 years of farming operations conducted on the project property.**

**10. Please briefly describe the current and future planned farm uses of the property** (if different from what you are doing now i.e. adding a value-added processing facility, changing from a dairy operation to raising livestock for meat production, etc.). Discuss the type and size of the operation; recent production history including crops grown, livestock raised, on farm sales (u-pick, CSA, farm stand, etc.); on-farm value added production; and markets for farm products grown.





**15. Where do you sell your farm products (local markets, wholesale distributors/processors, international markets, etc.)? Please be as specific as possible (e.g. Syracuse Regional Market, Genoa Grain, specific supermarkets, etc.).**

**16. What stage of succession planning are you in for the future transition of the farm?**

- Haven't started planning yet / No future ownership plan
- Succession plan is in place.

Comments:

**17. Do you have any current or planned leases on any of your farm parcels for any of the following? Please provide specific information on the parcels affected and terms of the lease(s) below.**

- Cell Phone / Communications Tower
- Natural Gas Well
- Solar Energy Facility
- Wind Energy Facility
- Billboard
- Other

Comments:

**18. Total number of acres to be protected.**

Please also break out land uses and coverage for protected land below:

- a. ACRES FARMED- Total: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tillable Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
Improved Pasture Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
Actively Farmed Muck Land Acres: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- b. SUPPORT LANDS- Total: \_\_\_\_\_ acres/sq.ft.  
Farmstead / Buildings (Barns, Silos, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_ acres/sq.ft.  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ acres/sq.ft.
  
- c. NON-TILLABLE LAND- Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
High-Quality Timberland Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
Active Sugar Bush Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scrub / Young Stands Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wetlands Acres: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- d. STREAMS, RIVERS OR PONDS- Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ponds on property     Yes             No  
Streams on property    Yes             No

**19. As the farmland property owner, please explain why protecting this farmland is important to you and the agricultural economy.**

**County Planning Dept.  
Use Only-  
DO NOT Fill in.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total Acres**  
to be protected.

**Acres Farmed:**  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of total acres  
to be protected.

**Support Lands**  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of total acres  
to be protected.

**Non-Tillable Land**  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of total acres  
to be protected.

**Streams, Rivers, Ponds**  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of total acres  
to be protected.