

Why Preserve Farmland?

Protect our farmers' right to farm.

Conserve Centre County's prime soils and soils of statewide importance.

Keep soils highly productive for agricultural purposes.

Help preserve the identity of individual towns and villages. Buffer each community from its neighboring settlements.

Stem development by preserving corridors of preserved farmland.



Provide habitats and corridors for fish and wildlife. Enhance our air quality.

Allow for groundwater recharge. Ensure stable supplies of drinking water and water for environmental uses and recreation.

Support our economy. Agriculture is Pennsylvania's number one industry. Local farm businesses support farm and farm-related jobs. One of every five jobs in Pennsylvania is agriculture-related. Productive farms employ managers, farm laborers, accountants, feed and fertilizer consultants, veterinarians and agricultural equipment suppliers. Farms also provide the raw materials for food processing plants, restaurants and grocery stores.

Keep property taxes down. For every dollar paid in property taxes, a farm family uses only 33 cents in public services. Tax revenues collected from farmland far exceed the cost of providing return services to that land.

Protect Centre County's pastoral beauty and promote local tourism as well as agritourism. Encourage people to visit and appreciate local farms.

Help farmers to keep feeding us. The more local farms we protect, the more opportunities people have to buy fresh, quality produce, meat and dairy products through local markets.

Sustain our quality of life in the Centre Region.

All of the above are the mission of the Centre County Agricultural Land Preservation Board and its farmland preservation program supported by the Commonwealth and three municipalities.

As farmland is permanently lost, so are many of our traditions, lifestyles and values. Preserving our precious farmland safeguards it for future generations of farmers.

For more information about farmland preservation, please contact Diana Griffith, Centre County Ag Land Preservation Coordinator, at dlgriffith@centrecountypa.gov or (814) 355-6791.