

ONONDAGA COUNTY  
AGRICULTURE AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD

407 Court House  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
Phone: 315/435-2070

DEBORAH MATURO  
Clerk

BRIAN REEVES  
Chairman

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**Onondaga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board**  
**PRE-PROPOSAL**  
**for the NYS Farmland Protection Implementation Grant Program**

This pre-proposal has been prepared by the Onondaga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) as a tool in gauging the viability and competitiveness of projects seeking endorsement by the Board for application to the New York State Farmland Protection Implementation Grant (FPIG) program. The AFPB reserves the right to reject applications deemed incomplete.

**Instructions:**

**\*\* Pre-Proposals may be submitted for Round 15 through February 2, 2018. \*\***

- To receive email announcements of upcoming rounds, send your contact info to [countyplanning@ongov.net](mailto:countyplanning@ongov.net), or check [ongov.net/planning/pdr.html](http://ongov.net/planning/pdr.html) for updates.
- All Pre-Proposals (including emailed forms) must include the required signatures.
- **Via hand-delivery**, by 4:00pm on the announced deadline date.
- **Via mail**, please postmark three days prior to submission deadline.
- Mailing/Delivery address: *Onondaga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board  
c/o Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor Civic Center  
421 Montgomery Street  
Syracuse, New York 13202*
- **Via email**, by 4:00pm on the AFPB deadline date to [countyplanning@ongov.net](mailto:countyplanning@ongov.net). If emailing, please ensure the email file size is 10MB or less, including photos. You are encouraged to call the Planning Agency at 315/435-2611 to ensure receipt of emailed proposals.

Proposals must include:

- **Completed Pre-Proposal:** Please complete all relevant sections of the pre-proposal form to the best of your ability. Forms may be printed and filled in by hand, or form fields can be filled in on the digital copy, then saved and/or printed. Additional sheets may be used as necessary.
- **Onondaga County Farm Service Agency Maps (required):** Aerial photo maps identifying Highly Erodible Soils (HEL) can be obtained from the local Farm Service Agency office (315/677-3552 x2). Please make your request in advance so the maps may be submitted with your pre-proposal. For farm operators in the FSA system, please have your farm number and tract number available. For non-farm owners, please have tax map numbers available.
- **Photos (optional):** Up to four (4) photos of important scenic viewsheds or distinguishing features of the farm may be submitted. Photos may be prints, digital files on a CD/DVD, or emailed if within file size limits above.

Once Pre-Proposals have been received and the state has issued a Request for Applications:

- Members of the Onondaga Co. AFPB will score each Pre-Proposal using established criteria.
- Farm project representatives will be invited to attend a meeting with the Board, at which each farmer may briefly summarize their application and answer questions from the AFPB to assist in scoring. Attendance is encouraged, but not mandatory.
- The AFPB will utilize this scoring process and other relevant information to select one or more farm/farm projects to receive the AFPB's endorsement, and may assist in matching of landowners with eligible state applicants.
- All farm owners submitting pre-proposals will be notified of the decision as soon as possible, so the full state application process may begin with selected owners and applicants.

## Links and Resources:

For questions and assistance with the Pre-Proposal process:

- Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency – [countyplanning@ongov.net](mailto:countyplanning@ongov.net) or 315/435-2611  
*Staff support to the AFPB; submission assistance; mapping resources*
- Cornell Cooperative Extension – [extendonondaga.org](http://extendonondaga.org) or 315/424-9485  
*Technical assistance to applicants; grant program workshops*

Eligible Applicant Partners (not exclusive list):

- New York Agricultural Land Trust – [info@nyalt.org](mailto:info@nyalt.org) or 518/860-6115
- Finger Lakes Land Trust – [info@fltl.org](mailto:info@fltl.org) or 607/275-9487 (Skaneateles / Otisco Lake watersheds)

Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan (for use in question 27):

- <http://www.ongov.net/planning/farmland.html>

NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets Farmland Protection Program:

- Program Info - <http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/agsservices/farmprotect.html>
- State application and supporting materials - <http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/RFPS.html>
- Site Planning Guidance -  
[https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agsservices/webinar\\_site\\_plans\\_for\\_ag\\_conservation\\_easement\\_proj.html](https://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ap/agsservices/webinar_site_plans_for_ag_conservation_easement_proj.html)

## Notes:

**Multiple Landowner Projects:** Multiple landowners are eligible to submit a joint proposal to New York State under the FPIG program, on condition that the combined land represents one single farm operation. For the purposes of the County's Pre-Proposal process, each individual landowner must fill out and sign a separate Pre-Proposal, with information pertaining to the land in your ownership. For questions that speak to the full farm operation or farm operator, co-applicants may defer to the Pre-Proposal of a lead applicant.

**Support Documents:** Some questions inquire as to the status of plans or other documents pertaining to the farm operation. These documents may be requested as part of the AFPB's farm project review.

**SOCPA Data:** In addition to the Pre-Proposal submitted by the applicant, the Board shall ask the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency to provide parcel data and mapping as part of the review process. Pages 13-14 are not to be filled in by the applicant.

**Onondaga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board**  
**PRE-PROPOSAL**  
**for the NYS Farmland Protection Implementation Grant Program**

FARM or FARMER NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY FARM ENTERPRISE: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN(S): \_\_\_\_\_

PRIMARY CONTACT: NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

EMAIL (required): \_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS APPLICATION FOR:       A SINGLE OWNER FARM OPERATION  
    A MULTIPLE-OWNER FARM OPERATION\*  
LEAD APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHER CO-APPLICANTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\*FOR JOINT APPLICANTS: COMPLETE THIS PRE-PROPOSAL FOR YOUR FARM PARCELS UNDER YOUR OWNERSHIP ONLY. FOR DESCRIPTIVE QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE ENTIRE FARM OPERATION, CO-APPLICANTS MAY DEFER TO LEAD APPLICANT RESPONSES.

IF THIS IS A JOINT PROPOSAL, DESCRIBE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FARM PROPERTIES AND APPLICANTS, INCLUDING HOW ALL CONTRIBUTE TO A SINGLE FARM OPERATION:

CERTIFICATION:

*I (WE) CERTIFY THAT ALL INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS PRE-PROPOSAL IS TO THE BEST OF MY (OUR) KNOWLEDGE ACCURATE AND TRUE.*

PREPARER:

OWNER (IF DIFFERENT FROM PREPARER):

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. THE STATE PROGRAM HAS DIFFERENT PAYMENT OPTIONS. YOUR WILLINGNESS TO DONATE ALL OR PART OF THE VALUE OF THE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS MAY MAKE YOUR APPLICATION MORE COMPETITIVE.

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- I INTEND TO DONATE MY DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS IN FULL UNDER THIS PROGRAM (BUT HAVE ALL PROJECT TRANSACTION EXPENSES PAID BY THE STATE)
- I INTEND TO APPLY FOR 87.5% OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF MY DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS (AND INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE 12.5% OF TOTAL PROJECT COSTS IN CASH OR DONATED LAND; MUST USE STATE EASEMENT LANGUAGE)
- I INTEND TO APPLY FOR 75% OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF MY DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS (AND INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE 25% OF TOTAL PROJECT COSTS IN CASH OR DONATED LAND; STATE EASEMENT LANGUAGE NOT REQUIRED)
- I INTEND TO APPLY FOR 100% PURCHASE OF MY DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS (TRANSACTION COSTS TO BE FUNDED ALTERNATELY BY \_\_\_\_\_)
- I AM UNDECIDED
- I NEED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE OPTIONS
- OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

2. HAVE YOU ALREADY CONTACTED A LAND TRUST OR OTHER ELIGIBLE STATE APPLICANT REGARDING WORKING TOGETHER ON A STATE PROPOSAL FOR THIS PROPERTY?

- YES, AND HAVE COMPLETED A SITE PLAN WITH THEIR INPUT
- YES
- NO

IF YES, ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

3. HAVE YOU ALREADY CONTACTED YOUR MUNICIPALITY(IES) REGARDING SUPPORT FOR THIS PROPOSAL? (WILL BE REQUIRED FOR FULL STATE APPLICATION)

- YES
- NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

4. HAVE YOU ATTENDED ANY WORKSHOPS OR INFORMATION SESSIONS REGARDING THE NYS FARMLAND PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS (FPIG) IN THE LAST 3 YEARS?

- YES
- NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

5. DO YOU OWN ANY FARMLAND OR OPEN SPACE LANDS CURRENTLY PROTECTED THROUGH CONSERVATION EASEMENTS?

- YES
- NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

6. FARM BUSINESS ORGANIZATION:  
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP
- PARTNERSHIP
- LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP
- CORPORATION
- LIMITED LIABILITY CORPORATION
- OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

NAMES AND TITLES OF SOLE PROPRIETORS / PARTNERS / CORPORATE OFFICERS:

7. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF YOUR FARM BUSINESS PLAN?

- NO WRITTEN PLAN IN PLACE
- PLAN IN PROCESS OF BEING WRITTEN
- WRITTEN, BUT NOT IMPLEMENTED, OR NOT RECENTLY UPDATED
- UPDATED AND IMPLEMENTED IN PAST THREE YEARS

8. ARE ALL REAL PROPERTY TAXES CURRENTLY PAID? (SCHOOL, TOWN/VILLAGE, COUNTY)

- YES
- NO

IF NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

9. HAS THE FARM DECLARED BANKRUPTCY IN THE PAST 7 YEARS?

- YES
- NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

10. DOES THE APPLICANT CURRENTLY RESIDE ON THE PROPOSED PROJECT PROPERTY?

- YES
- NO

IF NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

11. HAVE YOU SUBDIVIDED ANY PARCELS IN THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS?

- YES
- NO

IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

12. PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FOR EACH PARCEL TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT:  
 (ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY)

TOWN	TAX ID NUMBER (eg. 001.-01-01.1)	PRIMARY LAND USE(S) (CROP, BARN, HOUSE, WOODS, ETC.)	TOTAL PARCEL ACRES	ANY EXCLUDED ACRES? (# ACRES, EXPLAIN BELOW)
			TOTAL	TOTAL

\* Note: Farmsteads, support land, rural enterprise areas, buffers, etc. that contribute to the farm enterprise are generally eligible/encouraged for inclusion. See Site Planning Guidance on the NYS Agriculture & Markets web site referenced on pg. 2.

13. IF PORTIONS OF PARCELS ABOVE ARE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE EASEMENT, RENTED TO OTHERS, OR OWNER NAMES VARY BY PARCEL, PLEASE EXPLAIN: (MAPS OR PLANS TO ILLUSTRATE BOUNDARIES ARE ENCOURAGED, ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY)

14. DO YOU HAVE ANY EXISTING EASEMENTS, RIGHTS-OF-WAY, OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCES ON THE INCLUDED PROJECT LANDS? (GAS/WIND/SOLAR LEASES, UNDERGROUND PIPES, BURIED CABLES, EASEMENTS, ETC.)

- YES, DESCRIBED BELOW
- NO

15. DO YOU OWN ADDITIONAL LAND, NOT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EASEMENT PROJECT? (ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS AS NECESSARY):

TOWN	ACRES	PRIMARY LAND USE(S) (eg. CROP, BARN, HOUSE, WOODS, ETC.)	RENTED TO ANOTHER FARMER? (Y/N)
<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>			

16. DO YOU RENT ADDITIONAL LAND **FROM** OTHERS TO SUPPORT YOUR FARM OPERATION?

- YES, DESCRIBED BELOW
- NO

17. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE FARM BUSINESS. NARRATIVE SHOULD INCLUDE THE TYPE AND SIZE OF THE OPERATION, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, FARM HISTORY, RECENT PRODUCTION AND MARKETS FOR FARM PRODUCTS.

18. PLEASE DESCRIBE MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS / INVESTMENTS INTO THE FARM OPERATION (AND THEIR ASSOCIATED AVERAGE ANNUAL COSTS) MADE IN THE FARM BUSINESS IN THE PAST 10 YEARS THAT IMPROVED THE FARMS VIABILITY AND/OR INNOVATED YOUR FARM BUSINESS.  
(EG. PURCHASED LAND, IRRIGATION OR DRAINAGE SYSTEMS, FRUIT TREES OR VINEYARDS, HERD EXPANSION, CONSTRUCTION OF BARNs, FARM MARKET, MACHINERY, DIVERSIFICATION, OTHER FARM MANAGEMENT PRACTICES)



19. PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY PLANNING FOR FUTURE OWNERSHIP.  
(EG. ESTATE PLANS, TRANSITION PLANS, LEVEL OF INTEREST BY NEXT GENERATION OR OTHER FARMERS)

20. PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY THREATS TO THE LONG-TERM VIABILITY OF YOUR FARM.

21. PLEASE LIST OFF-FARM COMMUNITY AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS AND LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES, AND ANY PERTINENT RECOGNITION RECEIVED BY THE FARM BUSINESS OR FARM FAMILY.

22. PLEASE BREAK OUT LAND USES AND LAND COVER FOR PROJECT LAND BELOW:

TOTAL ACRES TO BE PROTECTED \_\_\_\_\_ total acres

A. ACRES FARMED \_\_\_\_\_ acres \_\_\_\_\_ % of total acres

TILLABLE \_\_\_\_\_ acres

IMPROVED PASTURE \_\_\_\_\_ acres

ACTIVELY FARMED MUCK LAND \_\_\_\_\_ acres

B. SUPPORT LANDS \_\_\_\_\_ acres or sq ft \_\_\_\_\_ % of total acres

FARMSTEAD \_\_\_\_\_ acres or sq ft

IF NOT ON SITE, DISTANCE TO FARMSTEAD: \_\_\_\_\_ miles

BARN/SILOS/BUILDINGS \_\_\_\_\_ acres or sq ft

WORKER HOUSING \_\_\_\_\_ acres or sq ft

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_ acres or sq ft

C. NON-TILLABLE LAND \_\_\_\_\_ acres \_\_\_\_\_ % of total acres

PRODUCTIVE FOREST \_\_\_\_\_ acres

ACTIVE SUGAR BUSH \_\_\_\_\_ acres

ORCHARD / VINEARD \_\_\_\_\_ acres

SCRUB / SHRUB \_\_\_\_\_ acres

D. WATER RESOURCES \_\_\_\_\_ linear feet and/or acres

SEASONAL STREAMS \_\_\_\_\_ linear feet

CONSTANT FLOW (FOR DRAINAGE ONLY) \_\_\_\_\_ linear feet

CONSTANT FLOW (FOR IRRIGATION, \_\_\_\_\_ linear feet

LIVESTOCK WATER OR FIRE PROTECTION)

PONDS / WETLANDS \_\_\_\_\_ acres

E. OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_ acres

23. IF YOU REPORTED WOODS OR FOREST, DO YOU (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- FOLLOW A WRITTEN MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT PROVIDES FOR FOREST REGENERATION
- CONDUCT HARVESTS AND OTHER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THAT RESULT IN SUFFICIENT REGENERATION TO ENSURE FUTURE FOREST CROPS
- HAVE WOODS/FOREST, BUT NO PLAN FOR MANAGING FOREST LAND FOR REGENERATION
- HAVE NO WOODS OR FOREST

24. PLEASE DESCRIBE ON-FARM CONSERVATION PRACTICES:

- IMPLEMENTED WHOLE FARM PLAN OR TIER 3 AEM PLAN
- COMPLETED WHOLE FARM PLAN OR TIER 3 AEM PLAN
- COMPLETED TIER 1 OR TIER 2 AEM WORKSHEETS
- NO AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (AEM) PLAN OR WHOLE FARM PLAN

DESCRIBE ANNUAL CONSERVATION PRACTICES TO REDUCE SOIL EROSION OF CROPLAND.  
(EG. COVER CROPS, MINIMUM/ZONE TILLAGE, RIPARIAN BUFFERS, SUBSURFACE DRAINAGE, DIVERSION DITCHES, ETC.):

25. ARE ALL PROJECT PARCELS LOCATED WITHIN A CERTIFIED NYS AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT?

- YES
- CURRENTLY SEEKING INCLUSION OF ANY NON-ENROLLED PARCELS
- SOME PLEASE EXPLAIN: \_\_\_\_\_
- NONE

26. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW PROTECTING THIS FARMLAND IS SIGNIFICANT IN ENHANCING THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY IN ONONDAGA COUNTY.

27. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW PROTECTING THIS FARMLAND SUPPORTS THE ONONDAGA COUNTY FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN AND OTHER LOCAL PLANS AND POLICIES.

28. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW PROTECTING THIS FARMLAND BUFFERS AND ENHANCES IMPORTANT NATURAL RESOURCES AND NATURAL AREAS.

29. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES YOUR FARM BUSINESS AND FARMLAND IS EXPERIENCING. (NARRATIVE CAN INCLUDE THE IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT ON YOUR FARM BUSINESS, NEARBY CONVERSION OF LAND TO NON-FARM USES, DESIRE OF NEIGHBORS TO HAVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC WATER/SEWER, NEW DEVELOPMENT, ETC. )

30. AS THE FARMLAND PROPERTY OWNER, PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY PROTECTING THIS FARMLAND IS IMPORTANT TO YOU. (INCLUDE MOTIVATION AND READINESS IN NARRATIVE)

**\*\* This completes the landowner portion of the application. \*\***

**The following tables will be completed by the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency, utilizing available GIS mapping data.**

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**31. SOIL PRODUCTIVITY**

PARCEL TAX ID NUMBER	TOTAL ACRES TO BE PROTECTED	ACRES OF PRIME SOILS	ACRES OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE SOILS	TOTAL PRIME/ STATEWIDE ACRES	PERCENT OF TOTAL PROTECTED ACRES
<b>TOTAL</b>					

Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service - Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) database

**32. AGRICULTURAL PROXIMITY**

	BORDERS	WITHIN 500 FT	WITHIN ½ MI	WITHIN 1 MI	WITHIN 2 MI
PROTECTED AGRICULTURAL PARCELS (AG CONSERVATION EASEMENTS)					
IDENTIFY:					

Source: SOCPA

	BORDERS	WITHIN 500 FT	WITHIN ½ MI
ACTIVELY FARMED LAND			

Source: 2015 Aerial Photography

### 33. NATURAL RESOURCES

	YES	NO
LOCATED WITHIN A DRINKING WATERSHED OR PRIMARY AQUIFER (SKANEATELES /OTISCO LAKE WATERSHEDS, BVILLE OR HOMER-CORTLAND-PREBLE AQUIFERS)		

Source: SOCPA / NYSDEC

	ON SITE	WITHIN 500 FEET
SITE CONTAINS STATE / FEDERAL WETLANDS		

Source: NYSDEC / USFWS

	ON SITE	BORDERS	WITHIN 500 FT	WITHIN ½ MI
NYS DEC PROTECTED WATERWAYS IDENTIFY:				

Source: NYSDEC

	BORDERS	WITHIN 500 FT	WITHIN ½ MI	WITHIN 1 MI	WITHIN 2 MI
MUNICIPAL/STATE/COUNTY PARK OR OTHER PROTECTED NATURAL AREA (EG. CICERO SWAMP, LAND TRUST PROPERTIES) IDENTIFY:					

Source: SOCPA

### 34. DEVELOPMENT PRESSURE

	ON SITE / WITHIN	WITHIN 500 FT	WITHIN ½ MI	WITHIN 1 MI	WITHIN 2 MI
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u> : INTERSTATE HIGHWAY ACCESS POINT/RAMP					
<u>SEWER</u> : PUBLIC SEWER LINE (IN R.O.W)					
<u>WATER</u> : PUBLIC WATER LINE (IN R.O.W.)					
<u>URBANIZATION</u> : SYRACUSE URBANIZED AREA BOUNDARY					

Sources: SOCPA, OCDWEP, NYSDOH, OCWA, 2010 US CENSUS

	41+ UNITS	31-40 UNITS	21-30 UNITS	11-20 5UNITS	0-10 UNITS
<u>HOUSING</u> : # OF NEW HOUSING UNITS WITHIN 1 MILE (BUILT SINCE 2005)					

Source: SOCPA, ONONDAGA CO. REAL PROPERTY SERVICES