



FARMLAND
INFORMATION
CENTER

FACT
SHEET

STATUS OF
LOCAL PACE
PROGRAMS



American Farmland Trust

FARMLAND INFORMATION CENTER
(800) 370-4879
www.farmlandinfo.org



DESCRIPTION

As of January 2010, at least 88 independently funded, local purchase of agricultural conservation easement (PACE) programs in 20 states had acquired funding and/or easements. This table displays the status and summarizes important information about these local farm and ranch land protection programs. For a program to be included, the protection of agricultural lands must be one of its core purposes, accomplished primarily by compensating landowners for the value of the easement.

EXPLANATION OF COLUMN HEADINGS

Locality

Name of the locality the program serves. When a land trust or soil and water conservation district administers the program, it is listed next to the locality.

Year of Inception / Year of First Acquisition

“Year of Inception” is the year in which the ordinance creating the PACE program was passed. “Year of First Acquisition” is the year in which the program acquired its first easement.

Total Easements / Restrictions Acquired

Number of agricultural conservation easements or conservation restrictions acquired to date. This number includes joint projects with state and/or county programs and independent projects completed by the local program. This number does not necessarily reflect the total number of farms/ranches protected because programs may protect a property in stages and may hold multiple easements on the same farm/ranch.

Total Acres Protected

Number of acres protected by the program through independent and joint projects to date.

Independent Easements / Restrictions Acquired

Number of agricultural conservation easements or conservation restrictions acquired through independent projects to date. This number excludes easements/restrictions

acquired through joint projects with county and/or state programs, which may represent the majority of local activity, to avoid double counting easements acquired. This number does not necessarily reflect the total number of farms/ranches protected because programs acquire a property in stages and may hold multiple easements on the same farm/ranch.

Independent Acres Protected

Number of acres protected through independent projects. This number excludes acres protected through joint projects with county and/or state programs, which may represent the majority of local activity, to avoid double counting protected acres.

Independent Program Funds Spent to Date

Dollars spent by each program to acquire easements/restrictions on farms/ranches through independent projects. This number excludes dollars spent on joint projects with county and/or state programs. Amounts may include unspent funds that are encumbered for installment payments on completed projects. Unless otherwise noted, this figure does not include incidental land acquisition costs—such as appraisals, insurance and recording fees—or the administrative cost of running the program. These figures do not include additional funds contributed by federal programs, other localities, private land trusts, foundations and/or individuals.

Additional Funds Spent to Date

Funds contributed by federal programs, other localities, state governments, private land trusts, foundations and/or individuals (see “Funding Sources Used to Date” below).

Program Funds Available

Program funds available for the current fiscal year to acquire easements on agricultural land.

Outstanding Applications

Backlog of applications reported by program administrators.

