

Status of State PACE Programs

As of May 2013, 27 states have state-level purchase of agricultural conservation easement (PACE) programs. Four states—Arizona, Georgia, Hawaii and Missouri—have authorized PACE but do not yet have programs. Montana had a state-level program that was discontinued in 2003 when state authorization expired. This table displays the status and summarizes important information about farm and ranch land protection programs in 28 states that have funded easement acquisitions. 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.

Some programs (e.g., Delaware and Massachusetts) purchase and hold easements directly. Others also have the authority to acquire and co-hold easements with partners (e.g., county governments). A few programs (e.g., New York and Virginia) only provide grants to eligible entities, such as local governments and land trusts, to buy easements. In Alabama and New Mexico, the state’s role is limited to holding and monitoring easements; other entities execute the projects.

EXPLANATION OF COLUMN HEADINGS

Year of Inception/ Year of First Acquisition

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

Easements or Restrictions Acquired

Number of agricultural conservation easements or conservation restrictions acquired through the state program. This number does not necessarily reflect the total number of farms/ranches protected because some programs acquire a property in stages and/or may hold multiple easements on the same farm/ranch. Some state programs do not hold easements but instead provide funds for easement purchases to local governments or land trusts.

Acres Protected

Number of acres protected by the program.

Land in Farms

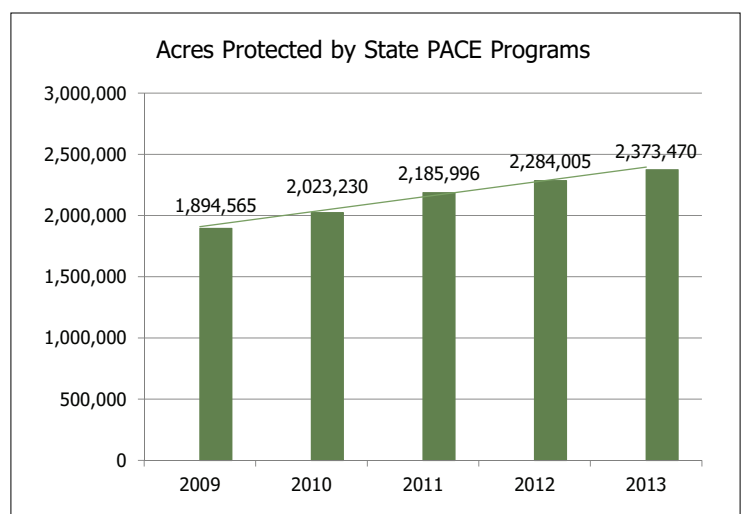
Acres of land in farms as reported in the 2007 Census of Agriculture released by the United States Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA-NASS). For the purposes of the Census of Agriculture, USDA-NASS defines a “farm” as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.

Program Funds Spent to Date

Dollars spent by each program to acquire easements on farms/ranches. This amount may include unspent funds dedicated for installment payments on completed projects. Unless otherwise noted, these figures do not reflect incidental land acquisition costs, such as appraisals, insurance and recording fees, or the administrative costs of running the program. These figures do not include additional funds contributed by federal programs, local governments (counties and municipalities), private land trusts, foundations and/or individuals.

Additional Funds Spent to Date

Funds contributed toward state program acquisitions by federal programs, local governments, private land trusts, foundations and/or individuals (see “Funding Sources Used to Date”).



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PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

State		Year of Inception / Year of First Acquisition	Easements or Restrictions Acquired	Acres Protected	Land in Farms (acres)	Program Funds Spent to Date
Alabama						
	Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries	2004/2005	21	4,591	9,033,537	\$1,636,866
California						
	California Farmland Conservancy Program	1995/1997	167	55,576	25,364,695	\$83,654,226
Colorado						
	Great Outdoors Colorado Δ	1992/1995	370	589,910	31,604,911	\$170,561,460 \wedge
Connecticut						
	Connecticut Farmland Preservation Program	1978/1979	296	38,546	405,616	\$133,300,000
Delaware						
	Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Program	1991/1996	716	107,754	510,253	\$140,987,690
Florida						
	Rural and Family Lands Protection Program	2001/2001	9	5,035	9,231,570	\$10,721,408 \wedge
Kentucky						
	Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement Corporation	1994/1998	156	31,792	13,993,121	\$13,823,269
Maine						
	Maine Farmland Protection Program	1999/1990	36	8,671	1,347,566	\$8,017,500 \wedge
Maryland						
	Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation	1977/1980	2,099	285,701		\$434,111,776
	Rural Legacy Program	1997/1999	532	76,146		\$238,263,930
Massachusetts						
	Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program	1977/1980	832	69,035	517,879	\$214,214,124
Michigan						
	Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program	1994/1994	115	22,409	10,031,807	\$31,127,250
Montana						
	Montana Agricultural Heritage Program \times	1999/2000	8	9,923	61,388,462	\$888,000
New Hampshire						
	Agricultural Lands Preservation Program	1979/1980	31	2,864		\$5,000,000
	Land Conservation Investment Program \times	1987/1988	36	6,232		\$5,349,008
	Land and Community Heritage Investment Program \sim (2012)	2000/2001	37	4,494		\$5,884,730
New Jersey						
	New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program	1983/1985	2,143	201,146	733,450	\$957,119,571
New Mexico						
	New Mexico Natural Heritage Conservation Program	2010/2010	3	5,930	43,238,049	\$850,000

Note: For explanation of column headings and symbols, please see fact sheet text.

FARMLAND INFORMATION CENTER

STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2013

Additional Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Program Funds Available Per Capita	Outstanding Applications	Funding Sources Used to Date	State
					Alabama
\$3,273,731	N/A	N/A	N/A	Appropriations, FRPP	
					California
\$62,489,996	\$2,486,000	\$0.07	7	Appropriations, bonds, mitigation fees, private contributions, FRPP	
					Colorado
\$399,269,161	\$23,000,000	\$4.43	14	Local government contributions, lottery proceeds, FRPP	
					Connecticut
\$32,568,000	\$20,000,000	\$5.57	100	Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, recording fees, FRPP	
					Delaware
\$53,913,583	\$4,000,000	\$4.36	140	Appropriations, bonds, lawsuit settlement funds, license plate revenue, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, transportation funding, FRPP	
					Florida
\$1,374,825	\$2,087,454	\$0.11	30	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, FRPP	
					Kentucky
\$7,451,666	N/A	N/A	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, tobacco settlement funds, ACUB, FRPP	
					Maine
\$8,173,252	\$4,451,622	\$3.35	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, credit card royalties, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP	
\$194,572,841	\$24,988,920 ^a	\$4.25	2		Maryland
\$182,526,595	\$16,947,141		2	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax relief program withdrawal penalties, real estate transfer tax, FRPP	
\$12,046,246	\$8,041,779 ^a		0	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, FRPP	
					Massachusetts
\$85,686,660	\$13,430,000	\$2.02	94	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, mitigation fees, private contributions, transportation funding, FRPP	
					Michigan
\$8,645,655	\$0	\$0.00	0	Local government contributions, private contributions, property tax relief program withdrawal penalties, FRPP	
					Montana
\$1,420,710	\$0	\$0.00	0	Appropriations, FRPP	
\$17,258,218	N/A	N/A	N/A		New Hampshire
\$140,000	\$0		0	Appropriations, local government contributions, FRPP	
\$0	\$0		0	Bonds	
\$17,118,218	N/A		N/A	Appropriations, recording fees, FRPP	
					New Jersey
\$550,805,889	\$207,496,185	\$23.41	350	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, sale of fee-simple purchased properties, state sales and use tax, FRPP	
					New Mexico
\$1,200,000	\$0	\$0.00	N/A	Appropriations, FRPP	

PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

State		Year of Inception / Year of First Acquisition	Easements or Restrictions Acquired	Acres Protected	Land in Farms (acres)	Program Funds Spent to Date
New York						
	New York State Agricultural and Farmland Protection Program ~ (additional funds spent to date reported 2008)	1996/1998	209	47,843	7,174,743	\$119,204,241
North Carolina						
	Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Program	1986/1999	81	13,123	8,474,671	\$12,902,746
Ohio						
	Agricultural Easement Purchase Program ❖	1999/1999	287	50,107	13,956,563	\$36,048,202
Pennsylvania						
	Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program	1988/1989	4,364	470,155	7,809,244	\$853,000,000
Rhode Island						
	Purchase of Farmland Development Rights Program	1981/1985	96	6,830	67,819	\$30,221,000
South Carolina						
	South Carolina Conservation Bank	2002/2004	35	11,598	4,889,339	\$11,236,304
Texas						
	Texas Farm and Ranch Lands Conservation Program	2005/2005	2	2,300	130,398,753	\$2,200,000
Utah						
	Critical Agricultural Land Conservation Fund	1999/2001	26	15,483		\$456,000
	LeRay McAllister Critical Lands Conservation Fund	1999/2000	37	63,599		\$12,477,172
Vermont						
	Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, Farmland Preservation Program	1987/1987	593	142,920	1,233,313	\$65,608,150
Virginia						
	Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Land Conservation Foundation	2000/2001	17	7,009		\$3,440,094 ^
	Office of Farmland Preservation, Matching Grant Program	2001/2008	43	5,733		\$5,302,159 ^
Washington						
	Farmland Preservation Program – (2012)	2007/2008	25	3,048	14,972,789	\$8,249,647 ^
West Virginia						
	West Virginia Agricultural Land Protection Authority	2000/2009	11	2,843	3,697,606	\$1,701,875
Wisconsin						
	Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements Program	2009/2011	17	5,124	15,190,804	\$4,824,076 ^
STATE TOTALS			13,450	2,373,470	436,988,852	\$3,622,372,474 ^

Note: For explanation of column headings and symbols, please see fact sheet text.

FARMLAND INFORMATION CENTER

STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2013

Additional Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Program Funds Available Per Capita	Outstanding Applications	Funding Sources Used to Date	State
					New York
\$44,270,029	\$12,000,000	\$0.61	0	Bonds, bottle bill revenue, license plate fees, local government contributions, real estate transfer tax, FRPP	
					North Carolina
\$55,614,319	\$2,289,100	\$0.23	20	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP	
					Ohio
\$11,773,147	\$6,409,663	\$0.56	27	Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP	
					Pennsylvania
\$483,100,000	\$57,000,000	\$4.47	2,000	Appropriations, bonds, cigarette tax, interest on securities, local government contributions, municipal landfill fees, property tax withdrawal penalties, FRPP	
					Rhode Island
\$44,905,538	\$1,973,000	\$1.88	29	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, transportation funding, FRPP	
					South Carolina
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, recording fees	
					Texas
	\$3,800,000	\$0.15		Appropriations, Federal Coastal Impact Assistance Program	
\$176,633,845	N/A	\$0.00			Utah
\$21,955,225	\$0		0	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP	
\$154,678,620	N/A		N/A	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, FRPP	
					Vermont
\$82,505,000	\$2,800,000	\$4.47	70	Appropriations, bonds, Farms for the Future pilot program, local government contributions, mitigation fees, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, transportation funding, FRPP	
\$9,539,650	\$2,711,590	\$0.33			Virginia
\$0	\$363,750		N/A	Appropriations	
\$9,539,650	\$2,347,840		N/A	Appropriations	
					Washington
				Bonds, development impact fees, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, FRPP	
					West Virginia
\$2,596,223	\$2,975,000	\$1.60	108	Appropriations, deed recording fees	
					Wisconsin
\$1,753,907	\$0	\$0.00	0	Bonds, private contributions, FRPP	
\$2,340,795,845	\$393,898,534 ✎		2,991		

