

# STATUS OF LOCAL PACE PROGRAMS

As of January 2016, at least 95 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.

### 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.

### 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

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## Acres Protected by Local PACE Programs



# PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAMS

Locality	Year of Inception/ Year of First Acquisition	Total Easements/ Restrictions Acquired	Total Acres Protected	Independent Easements/ Restrictions Acquired	Independent Acres Protected
<b>California</b>					
Davis, City of ~	1988/1988	<b>16</b>	<b>3,449</b>	8	983
Sonoma Co. ~	1990/1992	<b>78</b>	<b>34,746</b>	78	34,746
<b>Colorado</b>					
Boulder, City of ~	1967/1984	<b>17</b>	<b>2,438</b>	17	2,438
Douglas Co. ~	1994/1995	<b>32</b>	<b>40,232</b>	23	10,018
Routt Co.	1996/2000	<b>54</b>	<b>40,598</b>	19	8,722
<b>Connecticut</b>					
Shelton, Town of	1996/1998	<b>8</b>	<b>395</b>	2	5
Tolland, Town of	2006/2006	<b>1</b>	<b>155</b>	1	155
<b>Florida</b>					
Broward Co. X	2000/2000	<b>5</b>	<b>64</b>	5	64
Indian River Co. X	2004/2007	<b>3</b>	<b>2,047</b>	3	2,047
Pasco Co. ~	2005/2009	<b>1</b>	<b>384</b>	1	384
Sarasota Co. ~	1999/2002	<b>5</b>	<b>17,321</b>	2	2,287
Volusia Co.	2000/2003	<b>6</b>	<b>3,905</b>	1	163
<b>Illinois</b>					
Kane Co. ~	2001/2002	<b>34</b>	<b>4,655</b>	34	4,655
<b>Kentucky</b>					
Lexington-Fayette Co.	2000/2002	<b>261</b>	<b>29,165</b>	261	29,165
<b>Maryland</b>					
Anne Arundel Co. ♦	1991/1992	<b>140</b>	<b>12,896</b>	74	6,118
Baltimore Co.	1979/1981	<b>430</b>	<b>63,555</b>	100	8,214
Calvert Co. ♦	1992/1993	<b>386</b>	<b>29,903</b>	335	22,877
Carroll Co. ♦ ‡	1979/1980	<b>624</b>	<b>67,900</b>	247	26,682
Frederick Co. ♦ ‡	1991/1993	<b>434</b>	<b>59,105</b>	26	18,928
Harford Co. ♦ ~	1977/1977	<b>373</b>	<b>42,758</b>	224	27,257
Howard Co. ♦	1978/1984	<b>271</b>	<b>22,290</b>	232	18,249
Montgomery Co.	1986/1989	<b>138</b>	<b>21,738</b>	84	9,758
Prince George's Soil Conservation District	2007/2008	<b>51</b>	<b>5,054</b>	31	2,973
Washington Co. ♦	1980/1981	<b>221</b>	<b>28,500</b>	22	1,785
Wicomico Co. ♦ ~	1986/2004	<b>63</b>	<b>7,717</b>	7	780
<b>Michigan</b>					
Acme Township	2004/2009	<b>5</b>	<b>840</b>	5	840
Ann Arbor Charter Township	2003/2006	<b>9</b>	<b>927</b>	9	927
Kent Co.~	2002/2005	<b>16</b>	<b>1,987</b>	14	1,691
Scio Township	2004/2008	<b>9</b>	<b>686</b>	9	686
Peninsula Township ♦ ~	1994/1996	<b>75</b>	<b>4,779</b>	55	3,061
Webster Township	2005/2009	<b>8</b>	<b>571</b>	8	571

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

## STATUS OF LOCAL PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2016

Independent Program Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Funding Sources Used to Date	Locality
			<b>California</b>
\$3,819,000 ^	N/A	Appropriations, mitigation fees, local government contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$81,668,250	N/A	Bonds, local government contributions, sales tax, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Colorado</b>
\$21,399,732 ^	N/A	Bonds, private contributions, sales tax	
\$21,718,827 ^	\$5,000,000	Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, sales and use tax	
\$5,997,923 ^	\$1,923,097	Property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Connecticut</b>
\$2	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$365,000	\$1,334,918	Bonds, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Florida</b>
\$7,853,997	\$0	Bonds	
\$23,256,728	\$0	Bonds, property tax revenue	
\$1,800,800	N/A	Sales tax	
\$7,330,271 ^	N/A	Bonds, local government contributions, property tax revenue	
\$1,165,173 ^	N/A	Property tax revenue	
			<b>Illinois</b>
\$18,053,800	N/A	Gaming revenue, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Kentucky</b>
\$37,000,000	\$3,500,000	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, state tobacco settlement funding, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Maryland</b>
\$30,000,000	\$2,000,000	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$22,294,107	\$4,900,000	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, transportation funding, ACEP-ALE	
N/A	\$2,194,763	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, recording fees, transportation funding, ACEP-ALE	
\$86,602,704	\$17,354,068	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$55,000,000	\$9,400,000	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, recording fees, federal transportation funding, ACEP-ALE	
\$99,305,910	N/A	Agricultural transfer tax, local government contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$264,650,000	\$50,000,000	Agricultural transfer tax, bonds, real estate transfer tax, use value assessment withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
\$52,727,000	\$1,100,000	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, bonds, investment income, local government contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$24,192,979 ^	\$8,100,000	Local government contributions, real estate transfer tax, appropriations	
\$8,457,850	\$2,597,978	Agricultural transfer tax, appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, recording fees, transportation funding, ACEP-ALE	
\$1,619,027	\$0	Local government contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Michigan</b>
\$2,800,000 ^	\$600,000	Private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$3,216,904	\$334,000	Local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$467,800 ^	N/A	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$3,232,552	\$1,800,000	Local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$15,173,800	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, private contributions, property tax revenue, transportation funding, ACEP-ALE	
\$1,127,575	\$240,000	Local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	

# PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAMS

Locality	Year of Inception/ Year of First Acquisition	Total Easements/ Restrictions Acquired	Total Acres Protected	Independent Easements/ Restrictions Acquired	Independent Acres Protected
<b>Minnesota</b>					
Dakota Co. ♦	2003/2005	68	7,772	68	7,772
<b>Montana</b>					
Gallatin Co. ~	2000/2000	22	29,694	21	29,107
<b>New Hampshire</b>					
Londonderry, Town of ~	1996/1996	40	786	20	372
<b>New Jersey</b>					
Burlington Co. ♦ Δ	1985/1985	230	28,357	39	4,811
Cape May Co. ♦	1989/1991	63	3,243	16	651
Gloucester Co.	2000/1989	291	17,477	84	3,720
Mercer Co.	1983/1988	87	5,335	1	100
Monmouth Co. ♦	1981/1987	204	14,891	6	170
Morris Co.	1983/1996	127	7,778	19	612
Sussex Co. ~	1985/1990	163	16,765	38	2,492
<b>New York</b>					
East Hampton, Town of	1982/1982	21	382	18	233
Pittsford, Town of X	1995/1996	9	1,060	7	653
Southampton, Town of	1998/1999	53	1,289	53	1,289
Southold, Town of	1984/1986	118	2,478	101	2,005
Suffolk Co. + ~	1974/1976	338	9,895	311	8,934
Warwick, Town of ♦	2001/1997	27	3,272	18	1,646
Watershed Agricultural Council	1998/2001	142	25,847	142	25,847
<b>North Carolina</b>					
Buncombe Co.	2001/2005	45	5,935	36	4,561
Forsyth Co. Soil and Water Conservation District	1984/1987	25	1,255	19	911
Orange Co.	2000/2001	17	1,742	13	1,364
<b>Oregon</b>					
Yamhill Co. - Soil and Water Conservation District ~	2003/2003	4	1,242	4	1,242
<b>Pennsylvania</b>					
Buckingham Township ~	1991/1991	50	2,484	40	1,626
Bucks Co. ♦	1989/1990	188	15,600	30	5,000
Chester Co. ♦	1989/1990	438	36,139	269	19,626
Lancaster Co. ♦	1980/1984	913	76,617	132	10,450
Plumstead Township	1996/1997	57	2,156	46	1,479
Solebury Township ~	1996/1998	34	1,941	28	1,298

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

## STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2016

Independent Program Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Funding Sources Used to Date	Locality
			<b>Minnesota</b>
\$27,813,561	\$0	Bonds, landfill fees, local government contributions, property tax revenue, state grants, tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Montana</b>
\$9,300,000 ^	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>New Hampshire</b>
\$13,029,600 ^	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, use value withdrawal penalties, property tax revenue	
			<b>New Jersey</b>
\$29,793,256	\$7,000,000	Bonds, property tax revenue, local government contributions, ACUB	
\$26,032,267	\$19,570,622	Property tax revenue, transient lodging tax	
\$46,140,000	\$10,500,000	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$1,014,000	N/A	Appropriations, local government contributions	
\$2,000,000	\$9,000,000	Appropriations, local government contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$8,283,904	\$0	Appropriations, bonds, property tax revenue	
\$16,870,767	N/A	Property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>New York</b>
N/A		Bonds, real estate transfer tax	
\$6,259,248 ^	\$0	Appropriations, bonds, ACEP-ALE	
\$204,740,000 ^	\$0	Bonds, real estate transfer tax, property tax revenue	
\$48,546,572	\$9,868,495	Bonds, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$211,600,000	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, sales tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$14,382,781 ^	\$3,570,000	Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$52,648,497 ^	\$13,287,958	Local government contributions	
			<b>North Carolina</b>
\$4,747,053 ^	\$317,500	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$1,831,203	\$0	Appropriations, ACEP-ALE	
\$2,831,734 ^	\$1,750,000	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, sales tax, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Oregon</b>
\$0	N/A	District funds, private contributions	
			<b>Pennsylvania</b>
N/A	N/A	Bonds, private contributions, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$28,532,716	\$5,000,000	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$24,561,352	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, use value assessment withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
\$17,092,660		Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, use value assessment withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
\$9,466,707	\$3,419,300	Bonds, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$17,400,000 ^	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	

# PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAMS

Locality	Year of Inception/ Year of First Acquisition	Total Easements/ Restrictions Acquired	Total Acres Protected	Independent Easements/ Restrictions Acquired	Independent Acres Protected
<b>Virginia</b>					
Albemarle Co.	2000/2002	45	8,832	38	7,561
Chesapeake, City of ♦	2003/2006	5	1,736	4	1,672
Clarke Co.	2002/2003	107	5,182	73	3,358
Fauquier Co.	2002/2004	98	15,520	86	13,193
Franklin Co.	2007/2008	1	160	0	0
Goochland Co. ~	2007/2007	6	935	5	435
Isle of Wight Co.	2005/2010	8	930	0	0
James City Co. ~	2001/2003	7	543	6	440
Loudoun Co. X	2000/2002	5	1,007	5	1,007
New Kent Co. X	2006/2009	1	96	1	96
Northampton Co. ~	2006/2009	2	440	0	0
Rappahannock Co.	2004/2006	2	450	0	0
Spotsylvania Co.	2005/N/A	2	115	0	0
Stafford Co.	2007/2009	4	303	0	0
Virginia Beach, City of ♦ +	1995/1997	172	9,316	165	9,007
<b>Washington</b>					
King Co. ~	1979/1984	207	13,371	206	13,230
San Juan Co. Δ ~	1990/1994	14	1,276	14	1,276
Skagit Co. ~	1996/1998	133	10,164	107	7,563
Thurston Co. X	1996/1998	18	942	18	942
Whatcom Co.	2001/2002	16	865	15	834
<b>West Virginia</b>					
Berkeley Co.	2000/2004	45	4,776	43	4,405
Fayette Co.	2005/2007	7	467	7	467
Grant Co.	2003/2007	4	596	2	158
Greenbrier Co.	2004/2007	7	2,098	7	2,098
Hampshire Co.	2004/2006	17	2,990	12	2,061
Hardy Co.	2003/2003	9	1,611	3	442
Jefferson Co.	2000/2003	40	3,873	40	3,873
Mineral Co.	2010/2011	7	854	6	743
Monroe Co.	2002/2005	12	2,254	10	1,795
Morgan Co.	2000/2005	16	1,167	16	1,167
Nicholas Co.	2004/2007	2	360	2	360
Pocahontas Co.	2004/2008	11	1,931	9	629
Preston Co.	2004/2007	3	457	2	289
Summers Co.	2004/2007	2	547	2	547
<b>Wisconsin</b>					
Bayfield, Town of - Bayfield Regional Conservancy	2002/2003	4	193	4	193
Dane Co.	1996/1997	17	1,693	17	1,693
Dunn, Town of	1996/1997	28	3,005	28	3,005
<b>LOCAL TOTALS</b>		<b>8,632</b>	<b>973,247</b>	<b>4,469</b>	<b>469,739</b>

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

# STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2016

Independent Program Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Funding Sources Used to Date	Locality
			<b>Virginia</b>
\$12,990,140 ^	\$1,064,199	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, transient lodging tax, ACEP-ALE,	
\$1,342,284 ^	\$1,476,216	Appropriations, farm lease revenue, local government contributions, street closure revenue, use value assessment withdrawal penalties	
\$25,000	\$266,752	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, use value withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
\$12,365,550 ^	\$1,868,000	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, use value withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
\$0	N/A	Local government contributions, property tax revenue	
\$0	N/A	Local government contributions	
\$0	N/A	Local government contributions	
\$1,687,000	N/A	Bonds, local government contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$2,670,000	\$0	Appropriations, transient lodging tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$0	N/A	Local government contributions, private contributions	
\$0	N/A	Local government contributions, transient lodging tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$0	N/A	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, use value withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
\$0	\$0	Mitigation fees, local government contributions, private contributions	
\$0	\$1,074,000	Appropriations, sale of surplus property, use value assessment withdrawal penalties, private contributions	
\$38,859,375 ^	\$13,195,542	Appropriations, property tax revenue	
			<b>Washington</b>
\$60,728,211 ^	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$2,219,752	N/A	Bonds, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, timber excise tax	
\$6,815,260	\$894,000	Local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, timber excise tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$2,241,122	\$0	Property tax revenue	
\$2,505,100	N/A	Private contributions, property tax revenue, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>West Virginia</b>
\$10,273,494	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$833,610	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$358,500	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$1,428,901	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$1,553,675	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$791,330	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$7,236,032	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$569,750	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$440,423	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$1,127,240	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$264,000	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$515,457	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$673,300	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$94,250	N/A	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
			<b>Wisconsin</b>
\$274,160	\$0	Local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$928,481	N/A	Property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
\$2,917,922	\$1,016,921	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, ACEP-ALE	
<b>\$1,901,944,908</b>	<b>\$216,518,329</b>		<b>LOCAL TOTALS</b>

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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.

## Program Funds Available

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

## Funding Sources Used to Date

Sources of funding for each program. “Transportation funding” refers to federal money disbursed under The Moving Ahead

for Progress in the 21st Century Act and its predecessors for “transportation enhancements.” Easement acquisitions that protect scenic views and historic sites along transportation routes were eligible for these funds prior to 2012.

The Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) Program, authorized by the Department of Defense’s Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program, provides funds to establish easement-protected buffer areas around military installations.

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) protects agricultural land and conserves wetlands. It consolidates the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) and the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). The Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) component of ACEP provides matching funds to eligible entities to buy conservation easements on farm and ranch land. In the table, ACEP-ALE includes FRPP.

## NOTES

~ Figure carried forward from previous PACE tables.

X Program has terminated or is no longer acquiring agricultural conservation easements.

◆ Programs enter into installment purchase agreements (IPAs) with landowners. IPAs are structured so that land-owners receive semi-annual, tax-exempt interest over a term of years (typically 20 to 30). The principal is due at the end of the term. Landowners can convert IPAs into securities that can be sold to recover the principal at any time. Programs often purchase U.S. zero-coupon bonds to cover the final balloon payment. The interest payments are generally funded by a dedicated revenue source, such as a real estate transfer tax. Therefore, Program Funds Spent to Date may appear relatively low for these jurisdictions.

‡ Maryland’s Carroll and Frederick Counties offer “critical farms” programs. The programs allow landowners to sell to the county options to buy their easements

for 75 percent of the appraised easement value.

In exchange, landowners apply to the state PACE program. If the state approves the application, the landowner must repay the county from the proceeds. If the state application is not approved within five years, the county holds the easement, unless the landowner repays the program, with interest. Figures for Carroll and Frederick Counties may include critical farm projects that have not yet been approved by the state.

Δ Total program activity includes fee simple acquisitions.

+ Total and Independent Easements/Restrictions Acquired represents the number of parcels protected. Program staff track individual parcels, rather than number of easements or restrictions acquired.

^ Independent Program Funds Spent to Date includes incidental land acquisition costs and/or personnel costs.

× Program Funds Available includes money for other land conservation purposes.

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For more information on PACE, see the [Purchase of Agricultural Easements](#) fact sheet and [other PACE resources](#) on the Farmland Information Center (FIC) website. The FIC is a clearinghouse for information about farmland protection and stewardship. The FIC is a public/private partnership between the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and American Farmland Trust.