

Monroe County Farmland Preservation Program Sign-Up Bonus

Monroe County is offering a limited time sign-up bonus of \$2,000 to eligible landowners who sign a new Farmland Preservation Agreement in the Scenic Ridge and Valley Agricultural Enterprise Area.

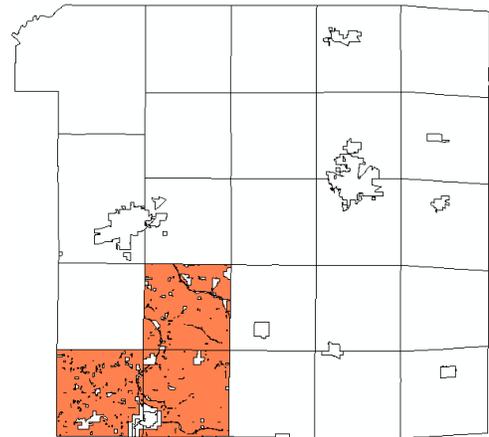
What is a farmland preservation agreement?

A Farmland Preservation Agreement is 15-year contract between a landowner and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection where the landowner agrees to 1) preserve their farm by keeping it in agricultural and open space uses and 2) to maintain soil and water conservation practices. In return, the landowner may claim the farmland preservation income tax credit.

What are some of the benefits of a farmland preservation agreement?

- Establish eligibility to claim an annual income tax credit
- Increase conservation on the ground
- Collectively reduce sediment delivery, phosphorus runoff to surface waters and protect water quality
- Reinforce your commitment to preserving farmland and the unique rural character of the towns of Jefferson, Portland and Wells

Scenic Ridge and Valley AEA
Southwest Monroe County



Farmland owners in the towns of Jefferson, Portland and Wells may be eligible . Please contact the Monroe County LCD for more information.



To find out more about your eligibility to participate or for any questions about the program or the payment incentive please contact the Monroe County Land Conservation Department at 608-269-8973 or at bob.micheel@co.monroe.wi.us.

Flip for more information





Eligibility requirements to sign a Farmland Preservation Agreement:

- The farmland must be in the Scenic Ridge and Valley AEA.
- The applicant must be the landowner but does not need to be the farm operator.
- The farm must have produced \$6,000 in gross farm revenue during the last year or \$18,000 in gross farm revenue during the last three years. If the landowner is not the farm operator, then the landowner can request the farm operator provide this information. Rent receipts do not count towards gross farm revenue.
- The farm must be in compliance with applicable state soil and water conservation standards. For more information on the conservation standards that apply to your farm, please contact the Monroe County Land Conservation Department.

Enrolling lands into a Farmland Preservation Agreements:

You may choose to enroll the whole farm or a portion of the farm.

All land that is included in the agreement must be in one of these land uses:

- Cropland, forestland, pasture
- Farmstead, associated farm buildings
- Open space use or undeveloped natural resources

All other local ordinances or land use regulations (such as zoning and land division ordinances) continue to apply to the land.

Eligibility to claim the Farmland Tax Credit:

- The landowner must be a Wisconsin resident for the entire taxable year.
- Cannot have claimed the homestead credit OR veterans and surviving spouses property tax credit that year.
- The farm must maintain the state soil and water conservation standards. A Certification of Conservation Compliance can be obtained from the Monroe County Land Conservation Department for those that continue to maintain these standards.
- The farm must maintain the gross farm revenue requirement of \$6,000 in gross farm revenue within the last year OR \$18,000 in gross farm revenue within the last 3 years.

Get started today!

This sign-up bonus of \$2,000 will only be offered this year to those that enroll their farm in a new Farmland Preservation Agreement.

**Monroe County Land
Conservation Department**

Phone: 608-269-8973

Email: bob.micheel@co.monroe.wi.us