WHY PROTECT FARMLAND?

Agriculture has sustained Jefferson County’s social and economic fabric for more than 300 years. Our fertile cropland is a non-renewable resource. Once it is converted to roads and buildings, it is lost forever.

Our fertile farmland is a core asset for our economy, farm and natural resources are important assets that makes the county a desirable place to live, work and visit. Productive farms support a diversified economy, buy goods and services from local businesses, and employ local labor. Our scenic working lands, rural character and natural, agricultural, scenic and historic values.

WHY PROTECT FARMLAND?

The Jefferson County Farmland Protection Board was formed in 2000 to protect and preserve farmland in Jefferson County. We believe that farmland protection is an important investment in our economy, farming heritage and quality of life for all residents.

The Jefferson County Farmland Protection Board

Our conservation partners:

• Berkeley County Farmland Protection Board
• Civil War Preservation Trust
• Land Trust Alliance
• Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle
• National Park Service/American Battlefield Protection Program
• Potomac Conservancy
• The Nature Conservancy
• USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service
• West Virginia Agricultural Lands Protection Authority
• West Virginia Association of Farmland Protection Boards

Our conservation partners:

Jefferson County Partners:

• Jefferson County Development Authority
• Jefferson County GIS Office
• Jefferson County Historical Landmarks Commission
• Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Office
• Jefferson County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office
• The many County employees who have assisted us during the year.

Thank you to our Program Collaborators and Funding Partners.

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Your donation is an investment in the future of farming in Jefferson County.

Robert E. Glenn, Board President

The Board is grateful for the generous contributions from individuals and organizations to the Easement Acquisition Fund. Every dollar you give is used exclusively to protect farmland.

Jennifer Antic
Angelina Api
John Allen, J
Vivian Anderson
Julia & Patrick Bachner
Wiley Beacham
Robert R. Biser
Dr. Keith Birkley, DVM
LeAnn Bosman
Maxine Buckler
Linda Carter
Matthew Coffey
Chris Colbert
Tom Cusson
Phil Cox
Tom Connecticut
Eileen Taylor Davis
B.T. and M.D. Douthat
Christopher Douthat
William Denby
Matthew Davis
Matthew Dungan & Golden Eyns
Josephine Frease
Pete & Linda Fidlo
Randy Fulkiness
Maurice Gladhill
Robert Glenn
David Harner & Ellis Kalle
Elizabeth Haynes
Robert C. Hemby
Dad Henes
Paul Henes
Robby & wilma Henes
Sandy & Tommy Henry
Mary & Harold Housman
Mary & Carol Hower
Bertha Humes
Mary & Carl Johnson
Rickey Johnson
Richard Linstead
James Lootens
Lisa, Gina & Eugene Lefferts
Eve Lewis
Robert & Dr. Roseannene Lewisont, MD
Christina Leonard
Judy & Maury
Heinrich & Maury
Phil & Bevlye McDouglas
Elizabeth McDouglas
Rob & Tia McMartin
Niall McNaughton
Waneta & Ron McElroy
Cindy Netherland
Margaret Oglesby
Sandra Osborn
Gina & Patrick Perry
Jaye Peterson
David Pitz
Jaye F. Ralston
Susan Robertson
Ralph & Annie Raldinho
Peter & Vicky Smith
Eve Stray
Oscar C. & Joan Swaff
Scott Sudduth
Stephen Swarts
Carrie & Jane Tabb
Robert & Nancy Thomas
Brenda L. Villard
Linda & Shawn Willow
Lisa & Paul Welch
Elizabeth Willhite
Ron & Lyn Willmore
Mark Willard
Dennis Wilson

The Board thanks the many individuals who have given their time, talent and funds for farmland protection. Thank you for supporting this important work!
The Farmland Protection Board is a board of seven volunteer county residents appointed by the County Commission. Each is a voting member, except for the Jefferson County Commissioner, who serves in an advisory capacity.

Robert Glenn, Jr., county resident at large
Karen Bedford, farmer, member of the Soil Conservation District
Elizabeth D. McDonald, county resident at large
David Obre, farmer at large
Russ Quinn, farmer, member of the county Farm Bureau
John Reisenweber, Executive Director of the County Development Authority
Jane Tabb, former County Commissioner
Board Administrator: Elizabeth B. Wheeler

In Memorium
Dr. Oscar C. Stine, a beloved and respected member of the farming community, passed away on March 14, 2016. He and his wife, Janet Stine, were among the first landowners to join the Farmland Protection Program. In 2006 they protected 255 acres of the historic Elmwood Farm and Fields, where they raised prize-winning Red Angus cattle. Dr. Stine was a dedicated physician and farmer and a compassionate, kind mentor to many people, young and old. The Board is grateful for the generous memorial gifts made in honor of this fine and thoughtful man.

The Farmland Protection Program is a progressive and growing interest. To date, 84 landowners have joined with the Board to protect 4,028 acres on 40 farms. Another seven qualified farms totaling 1,100 acres are on the waiting list. During the year, 50 landowners attended workshops held by the Jefferson and Berkeley Farmland Protection Boards on conservation and estate planning, and new land protection opportunities through the National Park Service’s American Battlefield Protection Program (NPS/ABPP).

The Board takes a conservative approach to finances and program management. FY16 administrative and personnel costs totaled $76,664, or 10.6% of income. Legal and professional fees totaled $20,258 or 2.8% of income. The balance of $625,565 is in reserve for easement acquisition.

The Board's books are audited by external auditors and reviewed by the State Auditor’s Office. The audit passed our audited financial statements. The Board’s books are audited by external auditors and reviewed by the State Auditor’s Office. The audit passed our audited financial statements.

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