



ADFP Trust Fund "Farmland Protection"

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Agricultural Development & Farmland Preservation Trust

**To Fund Projects To Encourage The
Preservation Of Qualifying Agricultural,
Horticultural, And Forestlands To Foster The
Growth, Development, and Sustainability of
Family Farms....**



What is the North Carolina Agricultural Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund?

In September 2005, the General Assembly passed House Bill 607 establishing the NC ADFP Trust Fund. The legislation also established a 19-member Trust Fund Advisory Committee to advise the Commissioner of Agriculture on the prioritization and allocation of funds, the development of criteria for awarding funds, program planing, and other areas of the growth and development relating to farming in North Carolina.

NC ADFP Trust Fund

Advisor Committee

- Ag Commissioner Steve Troxler-Chairman
- Bruce Andrews - NC Dept. of Commerce
- Andrew Branan - NC Farm Transition Network
- Gerry Cohn - American Farmland Trust
- Jimmy Gentry - NC State Grange
- Billy Guillet - NC Rural Economic Development Center
- Bill Holbrook - Farmer
- Jane Iseley - Farmer
- Dr. Ed Jones - NC Cooperative Extension Service
- Paul Meyer - NC Assoc. of County Commissioners
- Edgar Miller - Conservation Trust for NC
- Erica Peterson - NC Agribusiness Council
- Bobby Stanley - NC Assoc of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Gilistine Richardson - Black Farmers & Agriculturalists Assoc.
- Robert Slocum Jr. - NC Forestry Assoc.
- Jackie Thompson - Farmer
- Dr. Alton Thompson - NC A&T State University
- Manly Wilder- Assistant Secretary of NC DENR
- Steve Woodson - NC Farm Bureau

ADFP Trust Calendar

February 2007	Agricultural Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting
May 2007	ADFP Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting
July 2007	ADFP Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting
September 2007	ADFP Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting
October 2007	Grant Application Announcement
November 2007	Nine Farmland Preservation Workshops Conducted Throughout the State
December 2007	Grant Application Deadline in mid-December ADFP Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting
January 2008	Log in, Registration, and Initial Ranking of Grant Applications Trust Fund Rules Implemented Temporary, Full-time Program Assistant Hired
February 2008	Further Information Collected from Grant Applicants ADFP Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting Three Temporary, Part-time Agricultural Marketing Specialists Hired
March 2008	Interviews with Enterprise Program, Agricultural Agreement, & Conservation Easement Applications that Require Further Information
April 2008	Interviews with Agricultural Agreements & Conservation Easement Applications that Require Further Information
May 2008	Final Grant Application Review Trust Fund Advisory Committee Meeting
June 2008	Review of Grant Applications with the ADFP Trust Fund Advisory Committee and Announcement of Selected Applicants
July 2008	Issuing of Grant Contracts to 2008-2009 Grant Recipients
August 2008	Regional Meetings with Awarded Contract Recipients
September 2008	Initial Grant Money Distributed

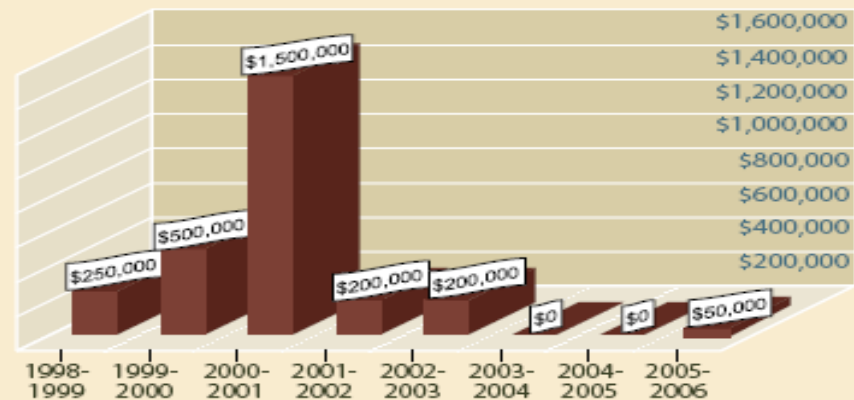
ADFP Trust Fund Administrative Rules

- **Authority G.S. 106-744**
- **Eff. January 1, 2008**
- **CHAPTER 58 - AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND**
- **SECTION .0100 - GENERAL PROVISIONS**
 - .0101 PURPOSE
 - .0102 FUNDING PRIORITIES
 - .0103 DEFINITIONS
 - .0104 (Reserved for Future Codification)
 - .0105 EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS
 - .0106 GRANT AGREEMENT
 - .0107 REPORTING
 - .0108 RECORDS

Background

The original Farmland Preservation Trust Fund was established in 1986 by the General Assembly. Funding was not provided until 1998, when the legislature appropriated \$250,000 for acquisition of agricultural conservation easements in North Carolina. The Conservation Trust for North Carolina was contracted at this time to administer the program.

Funding



Between 1998 and 2004 the Farmland Preservation Trust Fund was allocated a total of \$2.65 million, preserved 33 farms on more than 4.7 thousand acres and leveraged private, county and federal funds worth \$26 million.

In September 2005, the General Assembly passed House Bill 607, establishing the North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund (ADFP). This legislation established a 19-member Trust Fund Advisory Committee to advise the Commissioner of Agriculture on the prioritization and allocation of funds, the development of criteria for awarding funds, program planning, and other areas of growth and development relating to farming in North Carolina. This bill also broadened the mission of the trust fund to include three grant priorities:

- conservation easements (permanent easements)
- agricultural agreements (term easements)
- sustainable or viable agriculture programs

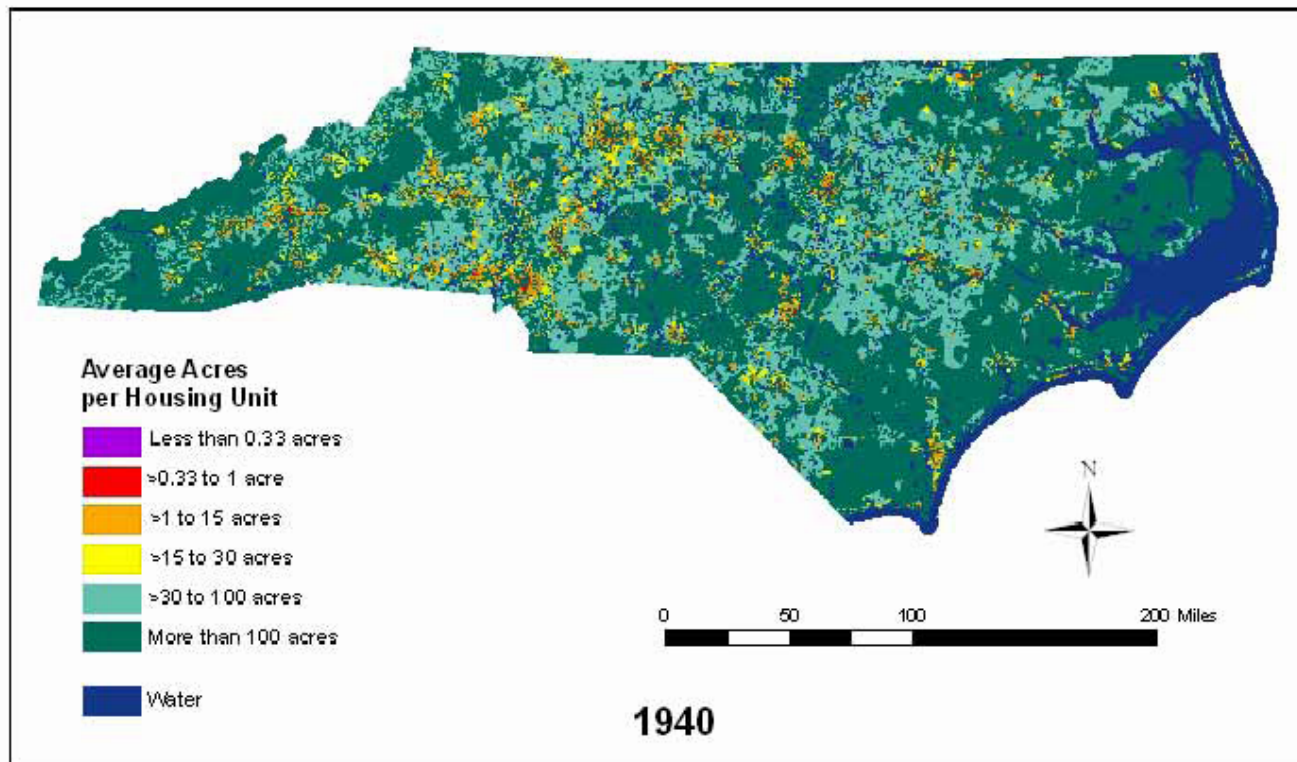
The ADFP Trust Fund received a \$50,000 appropriation in 2005, of which \$44,000 was designated by the ADFP Advisory Committee for pilot projects. The ADFP Trust Fund received no appropriations in 2006.



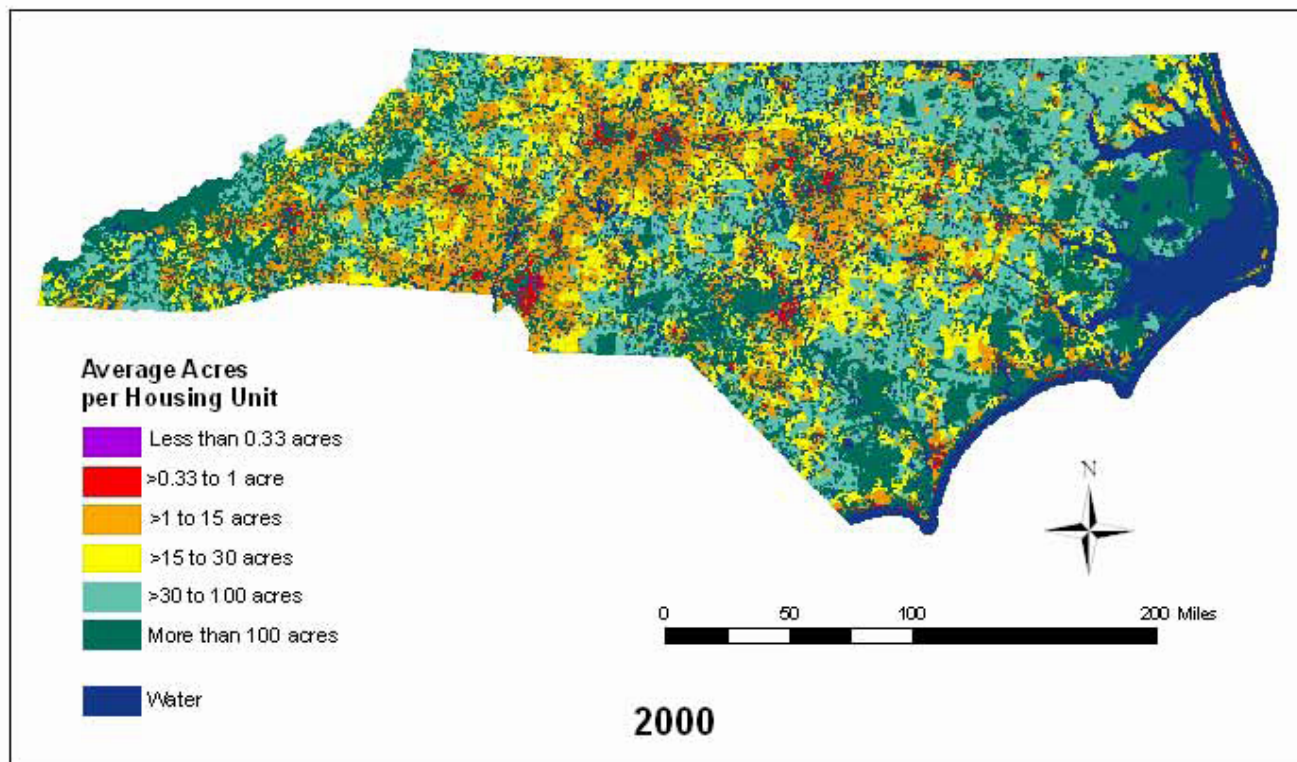
**Between 2003-2006 North Carolina lost
300,000 acres of farmland and 5,500
farms that once produced farm
products...USDA-NASS**



Housing Density, 1940 and 1950, North Carolina

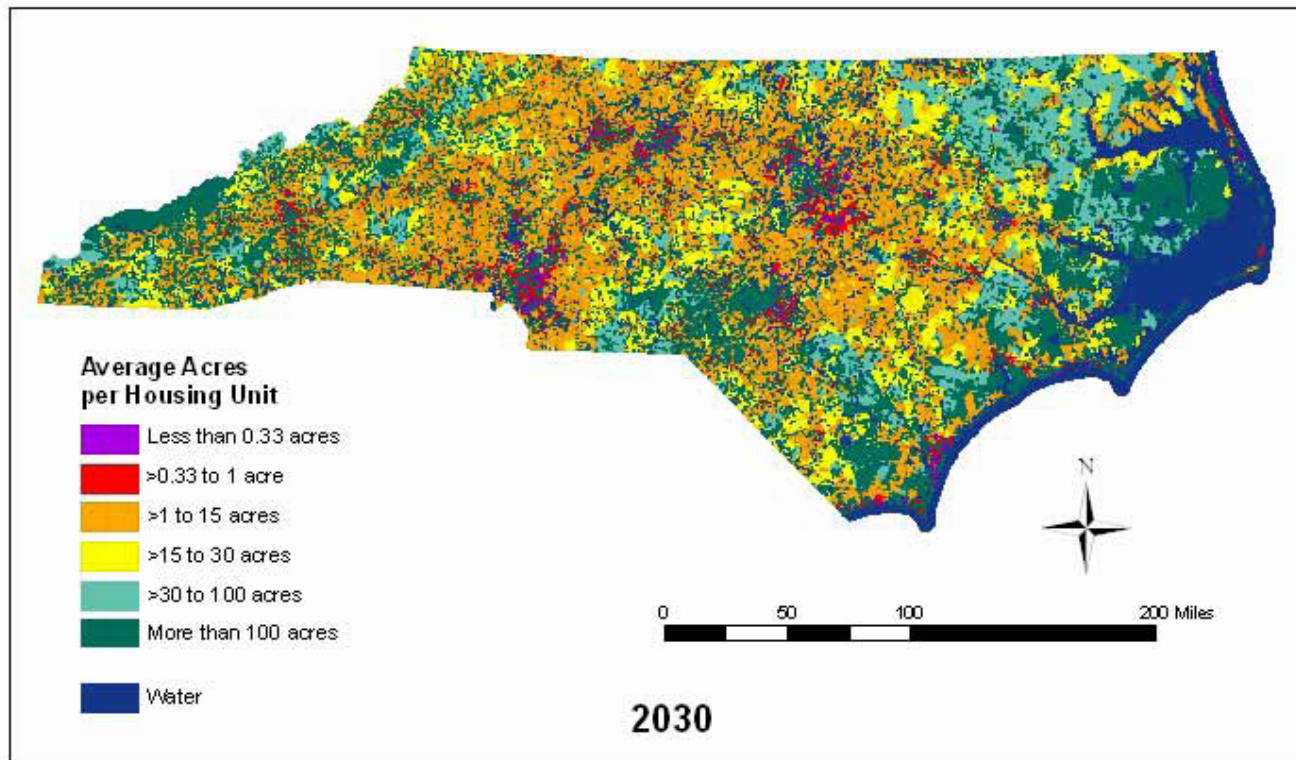


Conservation Trust of NC



Conservation Trust of NC

4 Million More People 2 Acres of Land Per Housing Unit

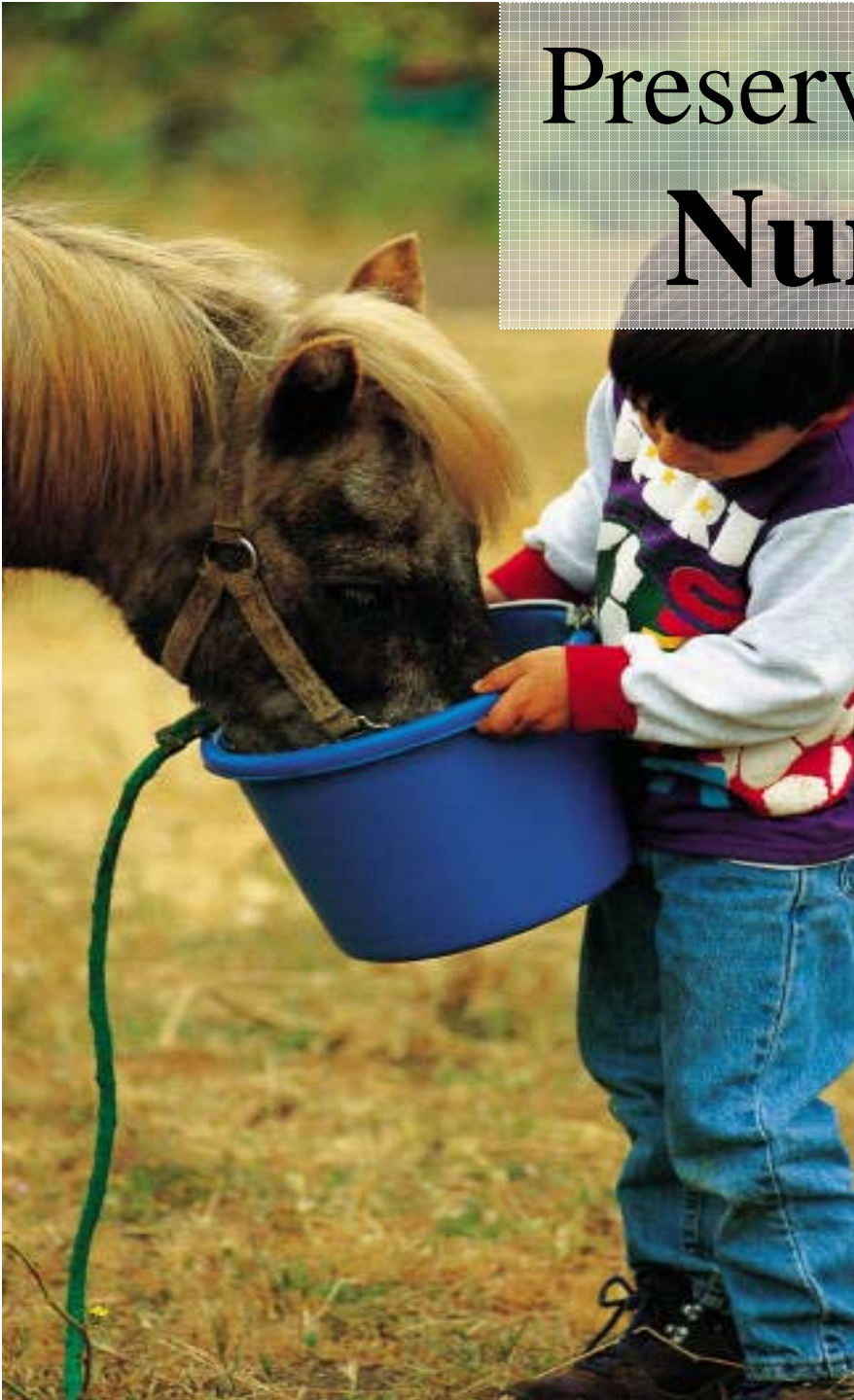


Conservation Trust of NC

The Last Crop



Independent Weekly

A young child with dark hair, wearing a purple and white patterned vest over a white long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans, is feeding a small, light-colored pony from a blue plastic bucket. The pony is wearing a brown halter and a green lead rope. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with dry grass and greenery.

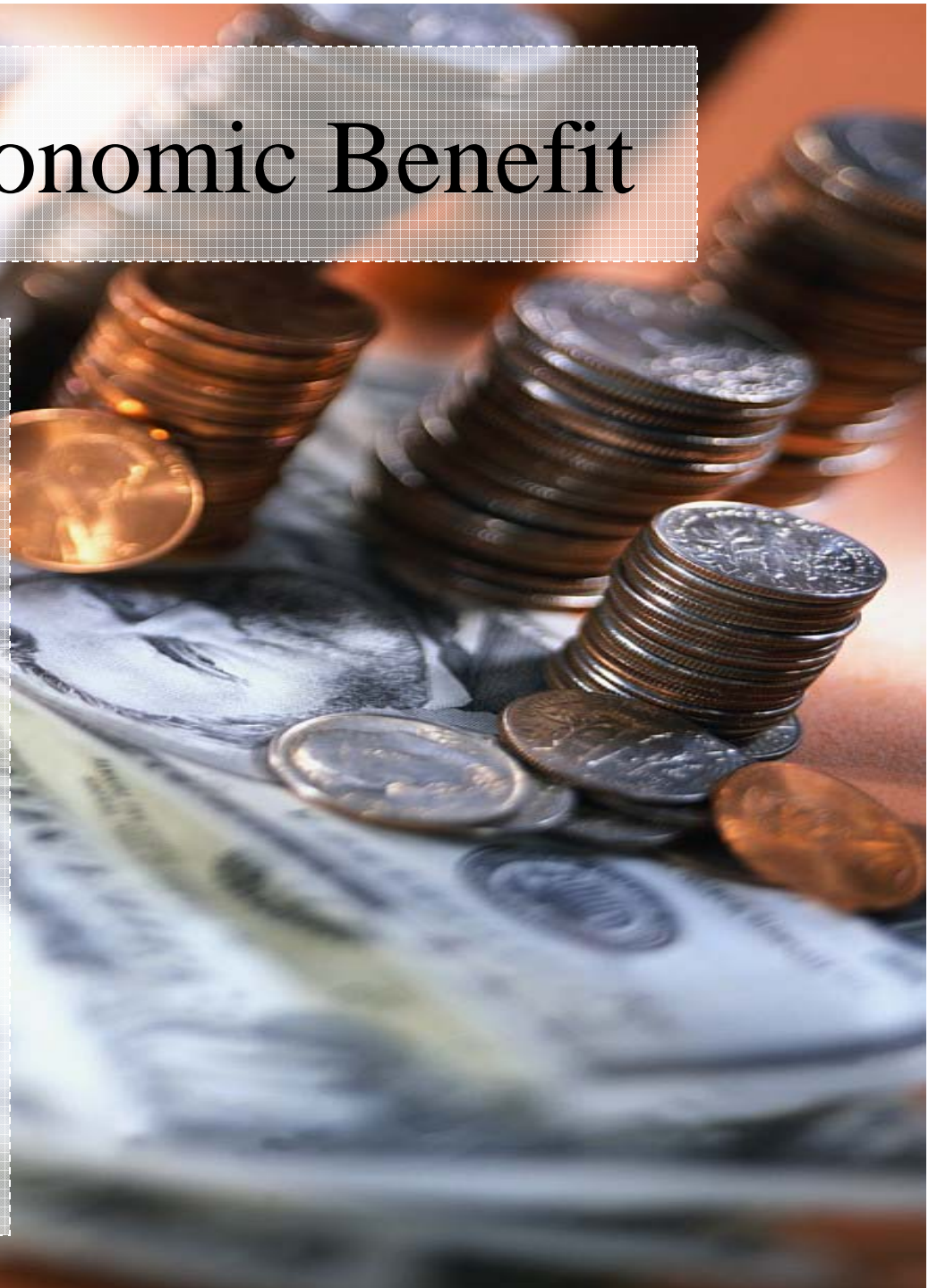
Preserving North Carolina's Number 1 Industry.

North Carolina agriculture is an over **\$66 billion** business annually. The NC ADFP Trust Fund plans to sustain the agricultural economy by preserving the lands that produced these products for the economy. The success of the program will maintain farm family income and retain agriculture-related jobs as well as increase public awareness about the importance of farm families to North Carolina's economy.

County-wide Economic Benefit

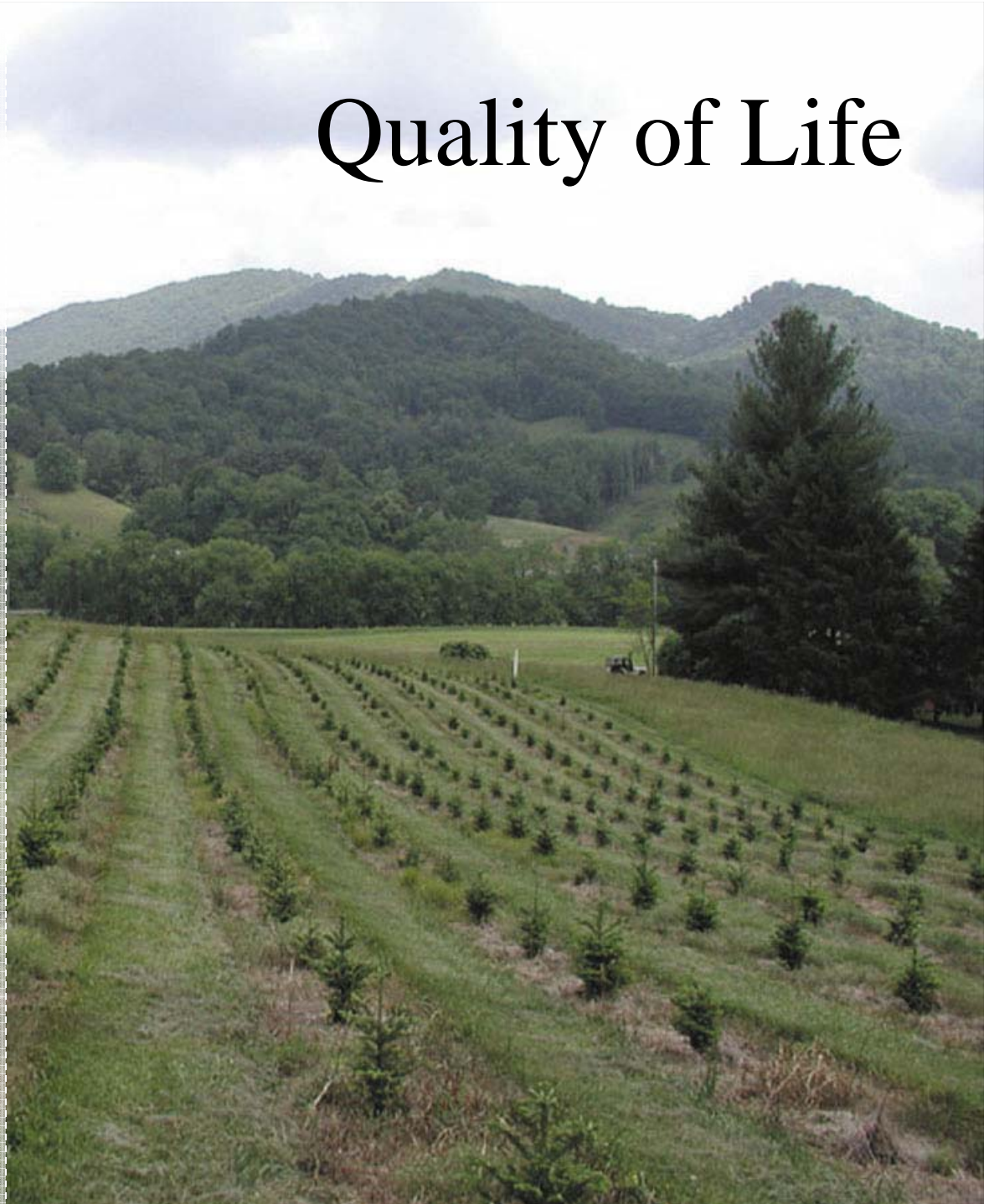
An American Farmland Trust survey showed that **for every dollar in taxes received from working lands only 34 cents in services is paid by the government.**

However, services paid to residential development are an average of \$1.15 per dollar of taxes received. Therefore, it is a net gain of revenue for the tax base and thus an economic benefit for any county to preserve working lands.



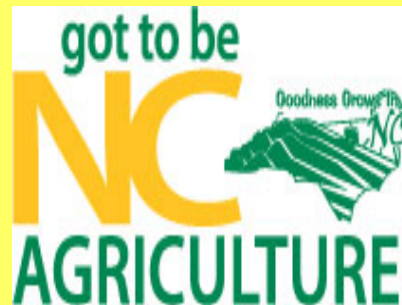
When farms are kept in agriculture it maintains the quality of life that each North Carolinian enjoys everyday. Rural working landscapes are an integral part of our heritage that must be preserved for future generations. If we do not save our agricultural areas we will destroy the rustic landscape that attracts and retains people and industry to North Carolina.

Quality of Life



Ability to buy locally grown products.

Maintaining the agriculture industry in North Carolina allows consumers to purchase and consume products from local agricultural producers.



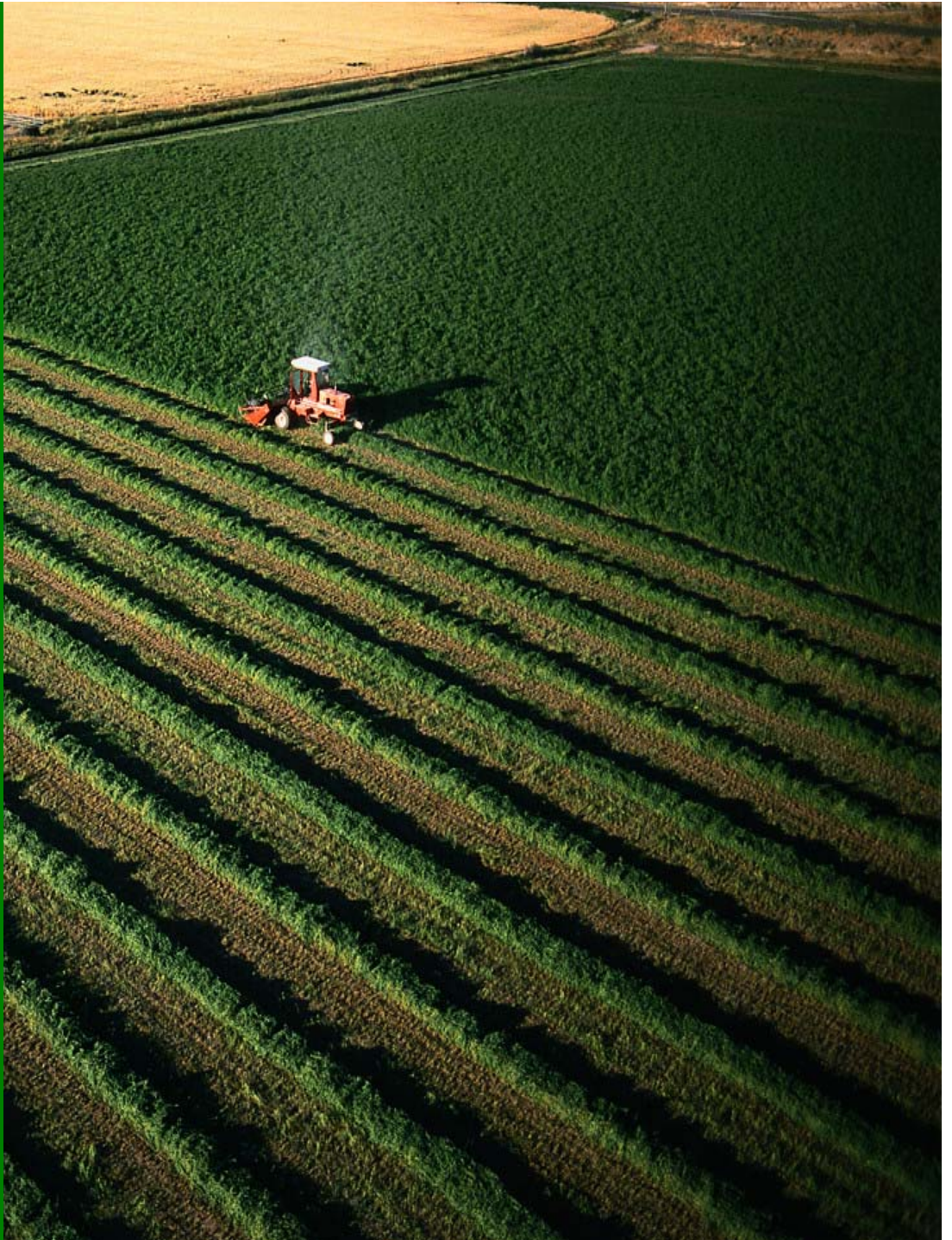
***North Carolina
Farm Fresh***

How are we preserving North Carolina Farms & Forests?



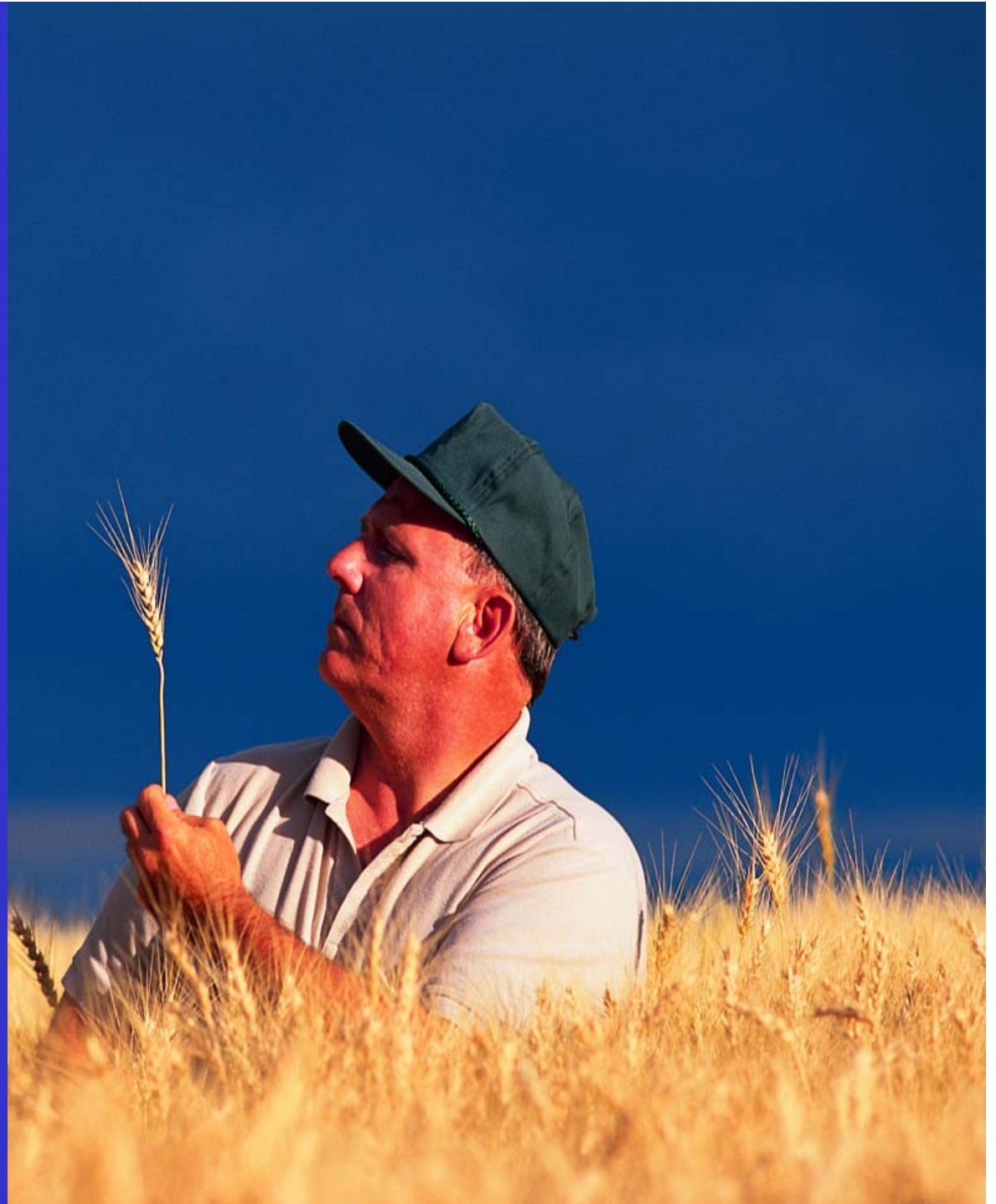
Conservation Easements

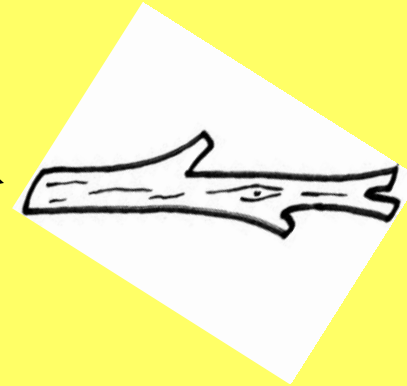
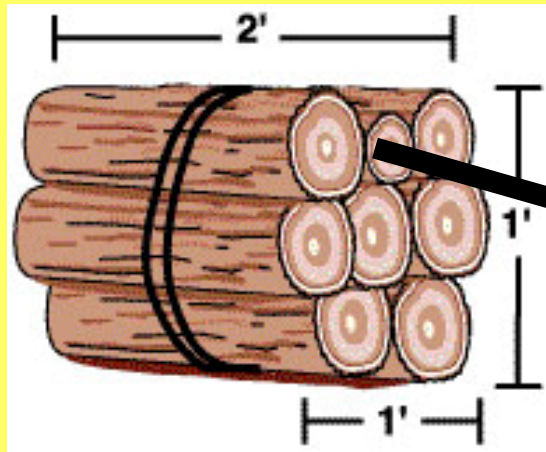
A written agreement between a landowner and a qualified conservation organization or public agency (Grantee) in which the landowner promises to keep the land for agricultural purposes and the Grantee is granted the right to enforce the covenants of the agreement and to monitor the property.



Agricultural Agreements

A written agreement between a landowner and a qualified conservation organization or public agency (Grantee) in which the landowner agrees to bring into or maintain farmland in active production of food, fiber, and other agricultural products for a specified period of time. This is also known as a “term agricultural easement.”






- Water Rights
- Hunting Rights
- ~~Development Rights~~ → Development Rights
- Farming Rights
- Mineral Rights
- Timber Rights



Programs that Promote Sustainable Agriculture

A young boy with a light blue baseball cap and denim overalls over a light blue shirt is smiling and holding two ears of corn. He is standing in a cornfield with tall stalks and green leaves around him. The background is a clear blue sky.

Public and private enterprise programs that promote profitable and sustainable family farms through assistance to farmers in developing and implementing plans for the production of food, fiber, and value-added products, agritourism activities, marketing and sales of agricultural products produced on the farm, and other agriculturally related business activities.

Agricultural Districts

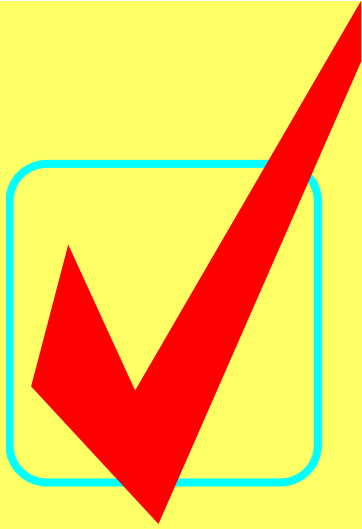


The purpose of the Agricultural District Program is to encourage the preservation and protection of farmland from non-farm development. This is in recognition of the importance of agriculture to the economic and social well being of North Carolina. As a result, counties throughout the state of North Carolina have begun to adopt Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinances (VAD) and Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinances (EVAD).



Benefits of a Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD)

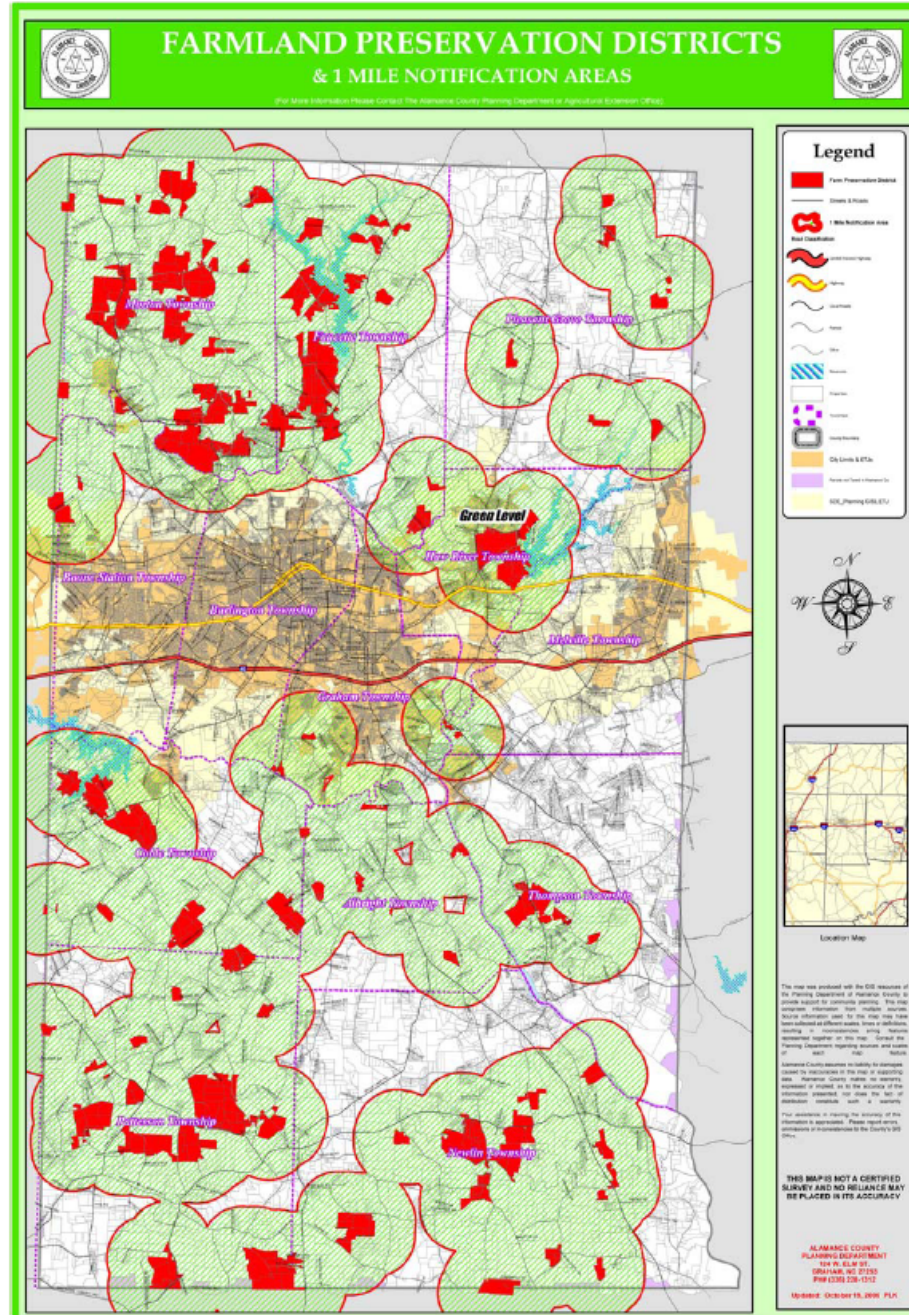
- Recognition & public education about agriculture
- Increase protection from nuisance suits
- Waiver of water and sewer assessments
- Public hearings required for proposed condemnation
- Eligibility for funding
- Official role in county or city government



Benefits of an Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District (EVAD)

- **-All VAD Benefits Plus:**
- **-May receive up to 25% of its gross sales from the sale of nonfarm products and still qualify as a bona fide farm** that is exempt from zoning regulations under G.S. 153A-340(b).
- **-Eligible to receive a higher percentage of cost-share funds under the Agriculture Cost Share Program** pursuant to Part 9 of Article 21 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes.

Figure 7: Farmland Preservation Districts

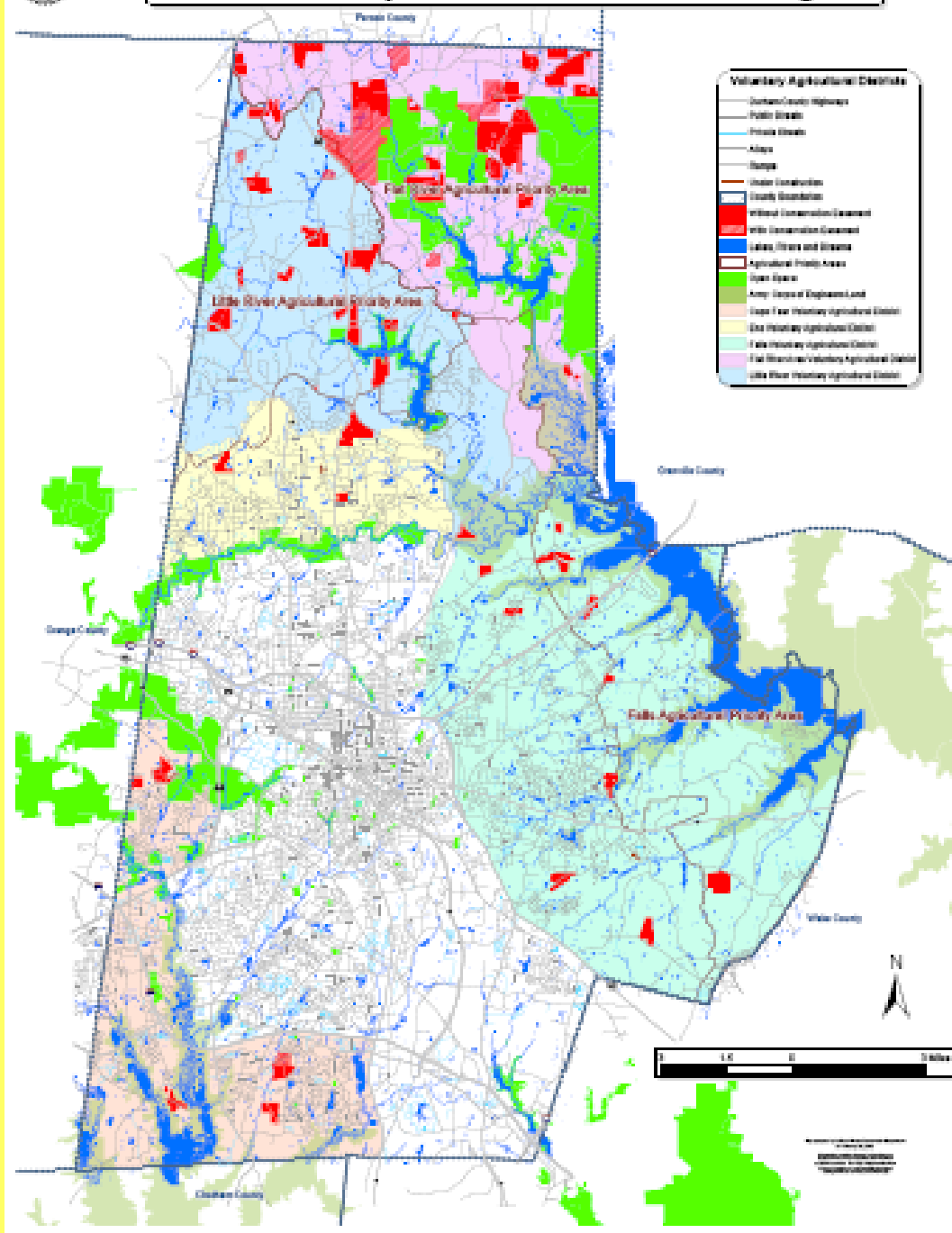


Farmland Protection Plan

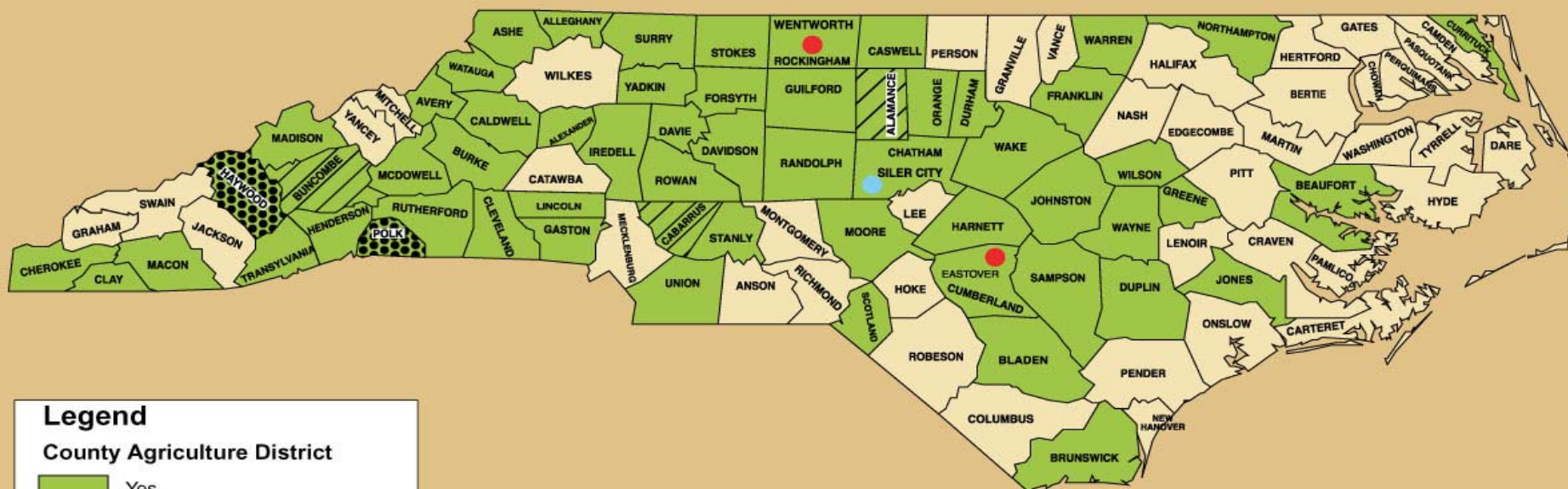
- Inventory of agricultural resources
- Challenges to family farming
- Opportunities
- Maintenance tools
- Schedule & funding



Durham County Farmland Protection Program



VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURE DISTRICTS



Legend

County Agriculture District

Yes

No

Farmland Protection Plan (FPP)

FPP in the process of being reviewed

Municipal Agriculture District

Resolution in Accordance With County Ordinance



0 20 40 80 120 160 Miles



Steven W. Troder, Commissioner
Sharon Stewart, Director of Emergency Programs

NOTICE

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information, but errors and conditions originating from physical sources used to develop the database may be reflected in the data supplied. The requester must be aware of data conditions and ultimately bear responsibilities for the appropriate use of the information with respect to possible errors, original map scale, collection methodology, currency of data, and other conditions specific to certain data. Maps containing animal health information are not authorized for duplication or distribution unless the State Veterinarian, in his judgement, believes the disclosure of information will assist in the implementation of animal health programs. Source: NCDA & Consumer Services: Emergency Programs Division, TIGER/Line Census Files, 1990, USGS 1:250,000 Digital Line graphs, and CGIA. Prepared by Allan Sandoval, NCDA & Consumer Services: Emergency Programs Division, 9/20/2008.

In the last 2 years the farmland preservation program has seen the following growth...

...from 1 county with an Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District to 7 counties.

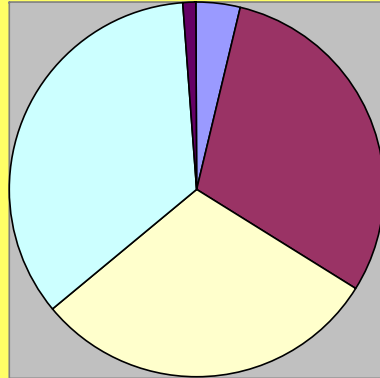
...2 municipal Voluntary Agricultural District ordinances.

...from 47 counties with Voluntary Agricultural District ordinances to 59 counties.

...5 countywide farmland protection plans written and 3 approved.

2007 - 2008 Appropriations

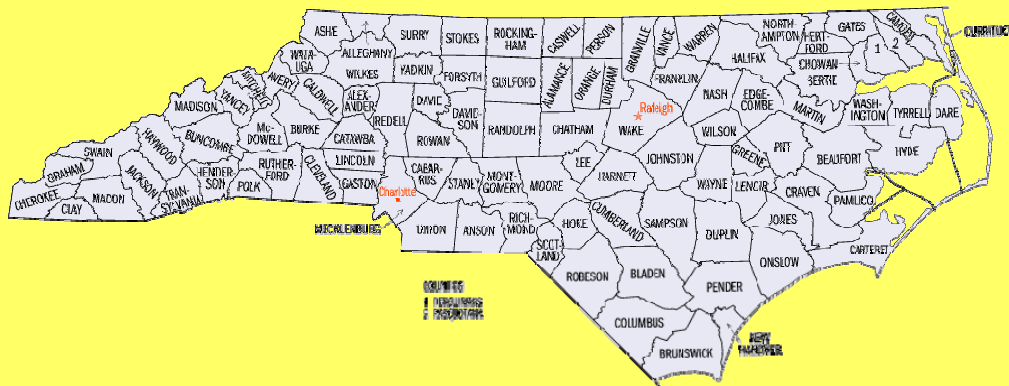
\$8 Million



- Administrative Cost for 2007-09
- Agricultural Development Program Grants
- Agricultural Agreement Grants
- Conservation Easement Grants
- Reserve

FY-2007-08 ADFP Trust Fund Budget		FY08
Administrative Cost for 2007-2008		\$160,000.00
Administrative Cost for 2008-2009 (reserve)		\$160,000.00
Agricultural Development Program Grants		\$2,400,000.00
Agricultural Agreements Grants		\$2,400,000.00
Conservation Easements Grants		\$2,800,000.00
Reserve		\$80,000.00
	TOTAL	\$8,000,000.00

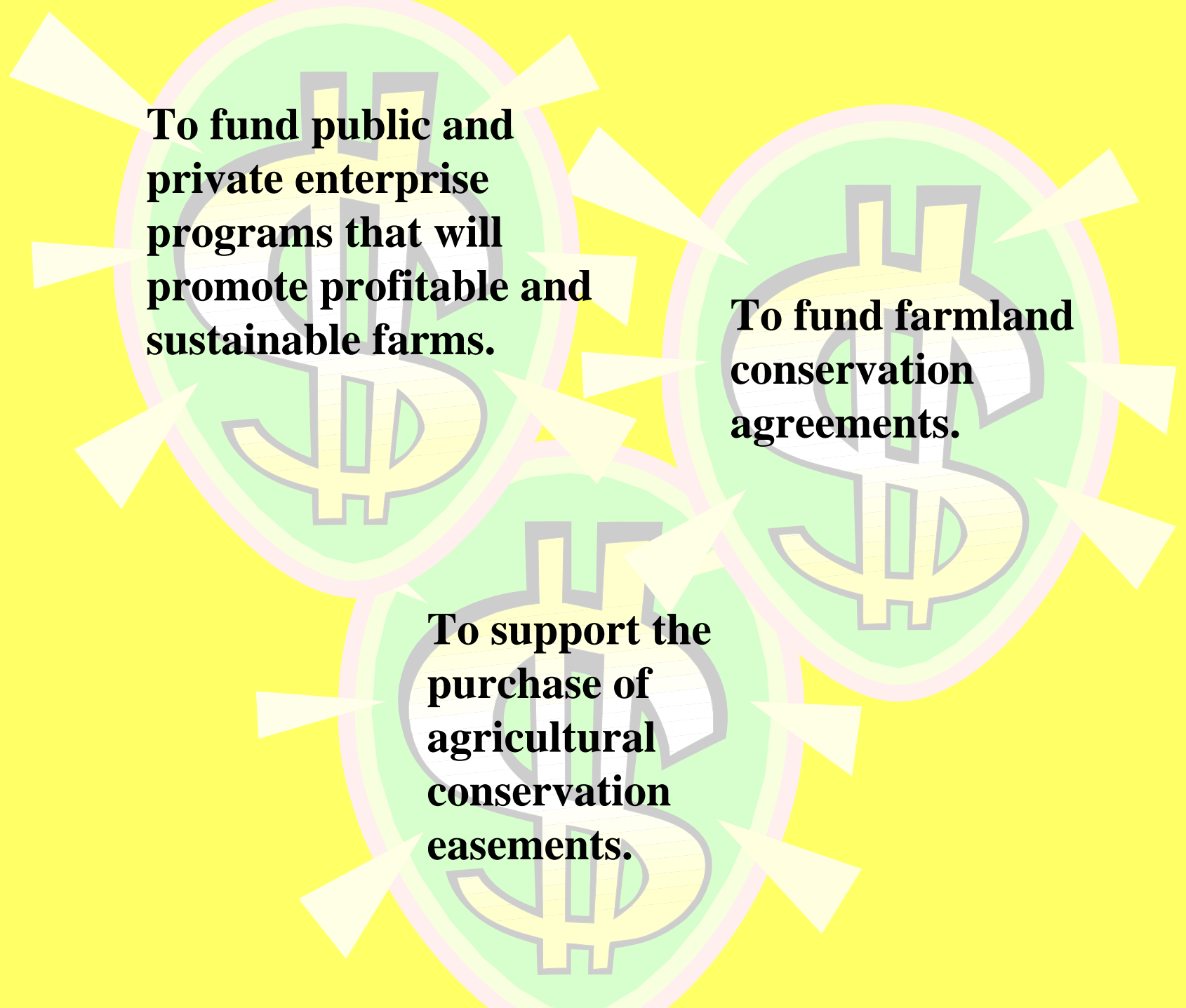
Who is eligible to receive a grant?



North Carolina counties



Non-profit conservation groups

The background of the slide features three large, overlapping dollar signs (\$). Each dollar sign is composed of concentric circles in shades of green and yellow, with a large, stylized dollar symbol in the center. Numerous small, light-yellow arrows point from the edges of these dollar signs towards the three text boxes. The entire slide has a solid yellow background.

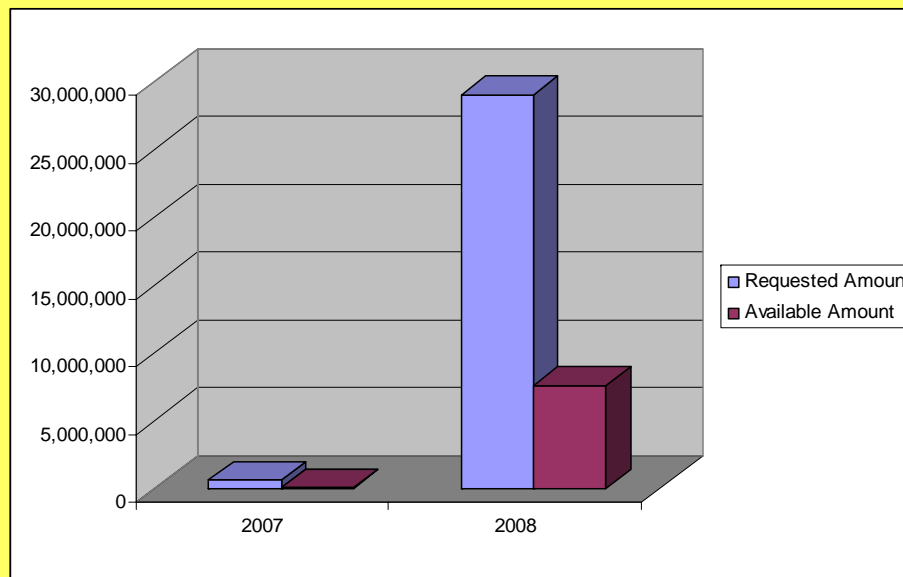
To fund public and private enterprise programs that will promote profitable and sustainable farms.

To fund farmland conservation agreements.

To support the purchase of agricultural conservation easements.

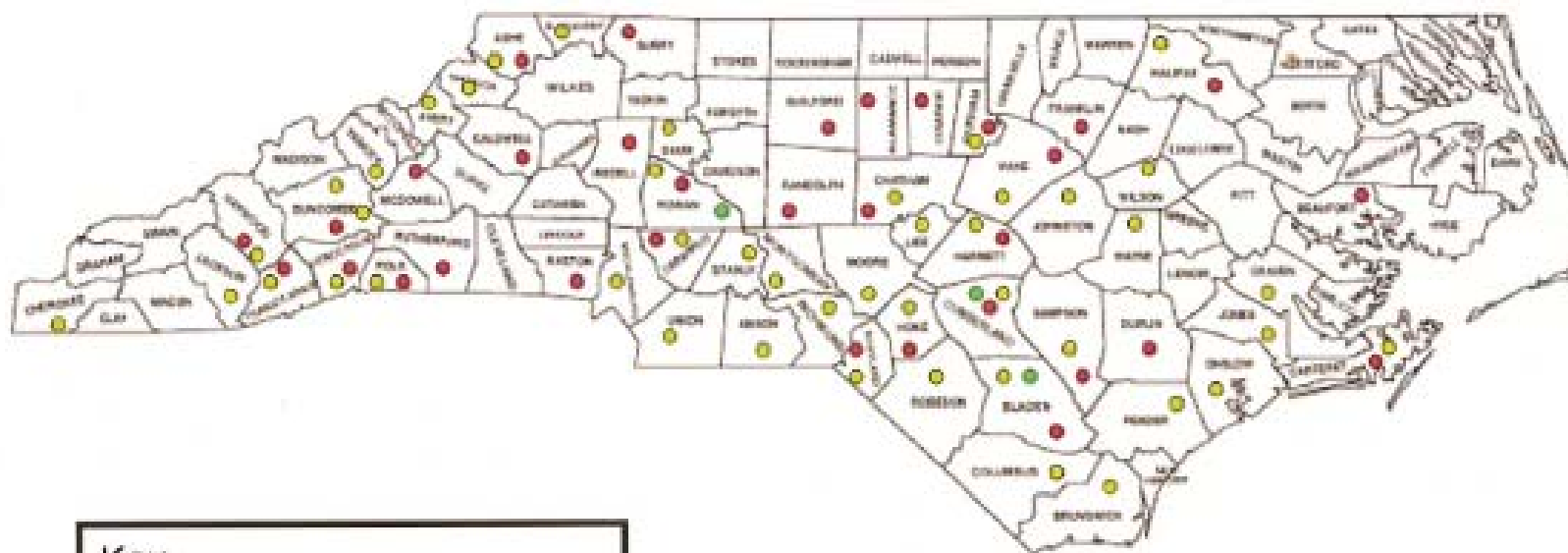
2007-08 Trust Fund Grant Applicants

Application Type	Number of Applications	Requested Grant Amount	Estimated Project Value
Conservation Easement	55	Over \$21.5 million	Over \$55.5 million
Agricultural Agreement	4	Over \$1 million	Over \$1.5 million
Enterprise Program	34	Over \$6.5 million	Over \$15.5 million
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>Over \$29 million</i>	<i>Over \$72.5 million</i>



2008 Grant Applicants

The following counties have the potential to be affected by the applications submitted to the ADFP Trust Fund for its 2008 grant cycle. This list contains only specific counties named in the applications and does not include regional or state-wide projects.



Key

-  Enterprise Projects
-  Conservation Easements
-  Agricultural Agreements

* There are 7 regional projects and 1 state-wide project not shown on this map.



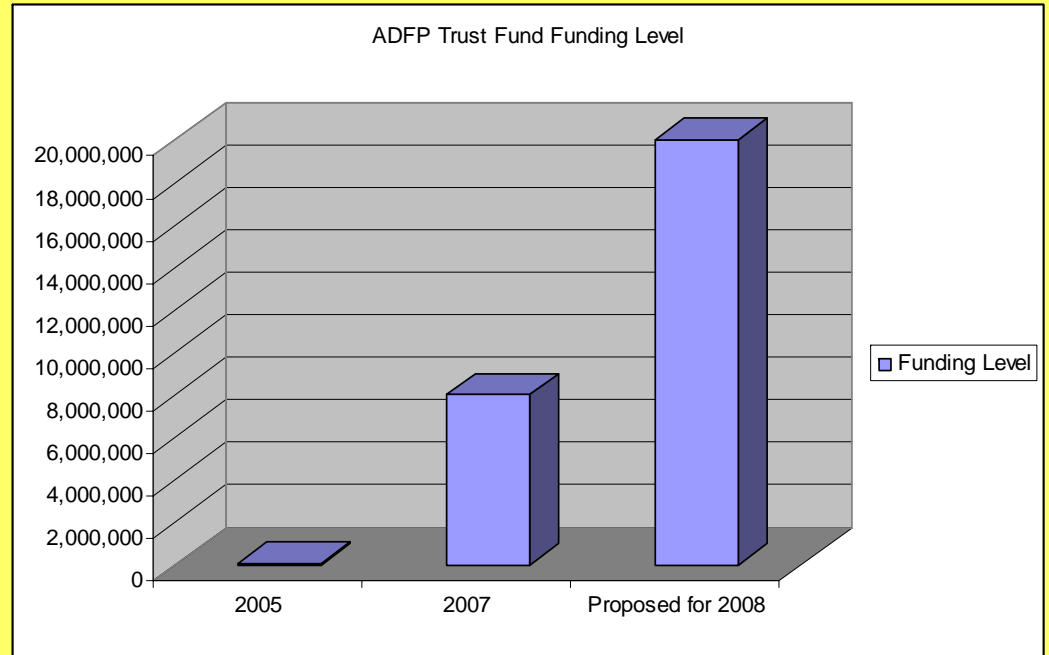






ADFP Trust Fund Funding Level 2005-2008

Year	Funding Level
2005	\$45,000
2006	\$0
2007	\$8,000,000
Proposed for 2008	\$20,000,000



2008 Budget Request

Type of Funds	Amount	Use
Recurring	\$172,944.00	3 positions – Administrative Assistant I, Real Property Agent II, Agricultural Marketing Specialist II
Non-Recurring	\$19,827,056.00	Agricultural Development Program Grants, Conservation Agreement Grants, Conservation Easement Grants, & Administrative Cost

ADFP Trust Fund Contact Information



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- www.ncadfp.org