

*North Carolina*  
Agricultural Development  
and Farmland Preservation  
Trust Fund



*2009*  
*Annual Report*









**“As our state continues to grow, we need to do what we can to protect the land that provides us food, clothing and cash crops. There is increasing pressure to sell farmland to developers as more people move to North Carolina, but when we do that we sacrifice our future. Farmland preservation is a long-term strategy to keep this state’s agriculture industry strong.”**

**—Joe Hackney  
Speaker of the House**

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# ***North Carolina*** **Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund**



## ***2009*** ***Annual Report***

## ADFP Advisory Committee

- Chairman Steve Troxler, Commissioner of Agriculture
- Anthony Allen, N.C. Association of County Commissioners
- Bruce Andrews, N.C. Department of Commerce
- Andrew Branan, N.C. Farm Transition Network
- Anne Briley, Farmer (Appointed by the Speaker of the House)
- Jimmy Gentry, N.C. State Grange
- Billy Guillet, N.C. Rural Economic Development Center
- William Holbrook, Farmer (Appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate)
- Dr. Ed Jones, N.C. Cooperative Extension Service, N.C. State University
- Edgar Miller, Conservation Trust for North Carolina
- Erica Peterson, N.C. Agribusiness Council
- William Pickett, N.C. Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- Gilistine Richardson, Black Farmers & Agriculturalists Association
- Robert Slocum Jr., N.C. Forestry Association
- Linda Shaw, RAFI-USA
- Jackie Thompson, Farmer (Appointed by the Governor)
- Dr. Alton Thompson, School of Agriculture & Environmental Sciences, N.C. A&T State University
- Manly Wilder, N.C. Division of Soil & Water Conservation
- Steve Woodson, N.C. Farm Bureau

## Staff

As legislated, the N.C.DA&CS provides staffing assistance to the Advisory Committee & Commissioner of Agriculture with the distribution of funds. Staff are selected based upon area of expertise on an as-needed basis. The ADFP Trust Fund also secures the services of temporary employees. NCDA&CS staff members include:

- Dewitt Hardee: ADFP Program Manager-Environmental Programs Manager  
dewitt.hardee@ncagr.gov
- Holly Gilroy: Office Manager  
holly.gilroy@ncagr.gov
- James Davis: Minority, Small and Limited Resource Farmers Marketing Specialist  
james.davis@ncagr.gov
- Martha Glass: Agritourism Marketing Specialist  
martha.glass@ncagr.gov

### **ADFP Staff Members:**

- David Steinbock: Legal Specialist  
david.steinbock@ncagr.gov
- David Mitchell: Budget Manager  
david.w.mitchell@ncagr.gov
- Kristen Davis: Document Specialist  
kristen.davis@ncagr.gov

## *Background of the ADFP Trust Fund*

With its first funding year in 1998, the original Farmland Preservation Trust Fund was instituted to protect the fast disappearing farmland in North Carolina. Our state has lost more than 600,000 acres of farmland since 2002. In an effort to protect and preserve working farmland, the General Assembly passed House Bill 607 in September 2005, which established the North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund (ADFP). Included in this legislation was the establishment of a 19-member Trust Fund Advisory Committee appointed to advise the Commissioner of Agriculture on various aspects of not only conservation, but growth and development of farmlands and forestlands in North Carolina. This bill also broadened the mission of the Trust Fund to include three grant priorities that can be awarded to fund projects to encourage the preservation of qualifying agricultural, horticultural and forest lands to foster the growth, development and sustainability of family farms.

**Conservation easements** are deed restrictions landowners voluntarily place on their property to protect resources, such as agricultural land. Most conservation easements are perpetual; however, term easements are also awarded. Term easements are awarded for a number of years chosen by the landowner.

**Agricultural plans** establish a comprehensive guide for counties or governments to protect and preserve farms and forests, as well as the agribusiness as a whole, which are dependent upon these resources. This also includes the formation and/or strengthening of Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) programs.

**Development project** grants are agriculturally-based projects geared toward developing a process or facility that will generate income, and in turn, benefit the agricultural community as a whole.





## Importance of Farmland Preservation

### Economic

Agribusiness is the number one industry in North Carolina, which generates more than \$70 billion annually, and plays an integral part in the economic status of the state. The ADFP Trust Fund intends to preserve these agricultural areas to ensure sustainability of our state economy, in both production and employment, as well as raise awareness of the importance of farmlands to our state. The ability to purchase and consume products that are produced on local farms gives consumers the advantage of fresh food at a more reasonable cost and also supports the local economy. Active agricultural land also creates a range of job opportunities, from farming to food processing and packaging. Currently, North Carolina is the third most diversified agricultural commodity producer and leads the nation in tobacco and sweet potato production. North Carolina also has a variety of soil types and climates, which permit farmers state-wide to produce a large range of commodities throughout the year.

With 48,000 working farms, 17 percent of the N.C. labor force is in agriculture or agribusiness.

In addition, North Carolina produces more than \$3 billion in agricultural exports and is ranked 9th in US cash receipts in agriculture.

| <b>Top 10 N.C. Counties<br/>in Farm Cash Receipts</b> |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| <i>County</i>   | <i>Thousands Dollars</i> |
| Duplin  | \$968,140                |
| Sampson   | \$913,228                |
| Union   | \$454,817                |
| Wayne   | \$370,547                |
| Robeson   | \$363,875                |
| Wilkes  | \$329,272                |
| Bladen  | \$326,334                |
| Johnston  | \$241,633                |
| Randolph  | \$209,857                |
| Nash  | \$206,810                |

\*Chart above represents 2008 figures

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### Environmental

Farm and forestlands help protect the environment, wildlife, and also provide clean air and water. Soils and forests filter out contaminants, reducing the risk of flooding, and serving as a recharge area for water. Without proper preservation, these natural resources will be lost, and wildlife displacement will occur. These lands also house large amounts of carbon dioxide, thus helping to maintain the homeostatic nature of the environment and reducing the threat of drastic climate change.

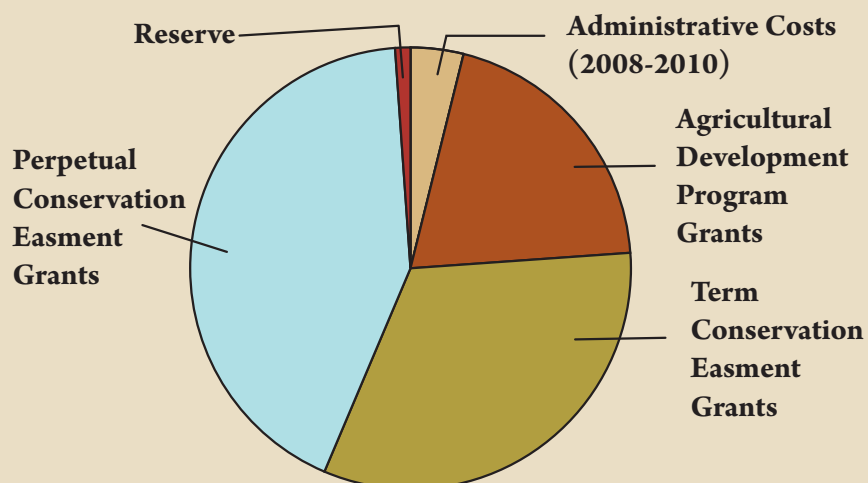
### Cultural Heritage

The importance of protecting agricultural area is not only for our economic and environmental future, but the preservation of our quality of life. Working farmlands and rural scenery are a deeply-rooted aspect of North Carolina's history. This cultural heritage is what makes the state so appealing to both its residents and visitors. It is imperative that we preserve the land that is an integral part of North Carolina's heritage and ensure that legacy for future generations.

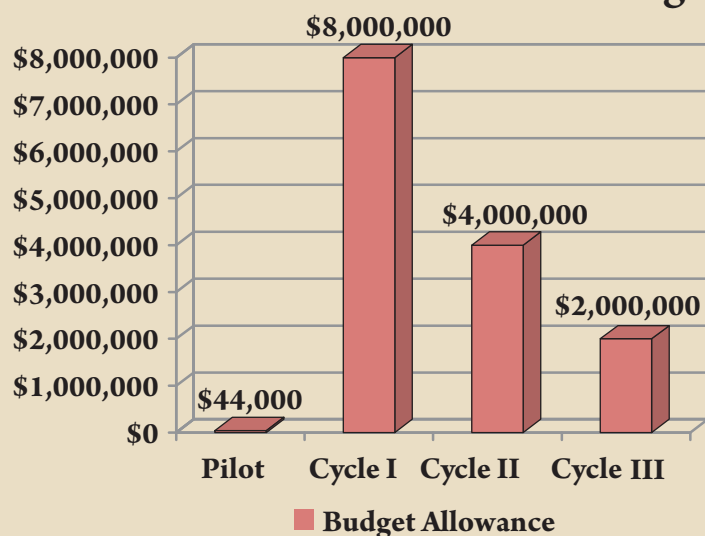
## Budget

### 2008-09 ADFP Trust Fund Budget (Cycle II)

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Administrative Costs (2008-2009)           | \$80,000           |
| Administrative Costs (2009-2010) (reserve) | \$80,000           |
| Agricultural Development Program Grants    | \$800,000          |
| Term Conservation Easement Grants          | \$1,300,000        |
| Perpetual Conservation Easement Grants     | \$1,700,000        |
| Reserve                                    | \$40,000           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>\$4,000,000</b> |



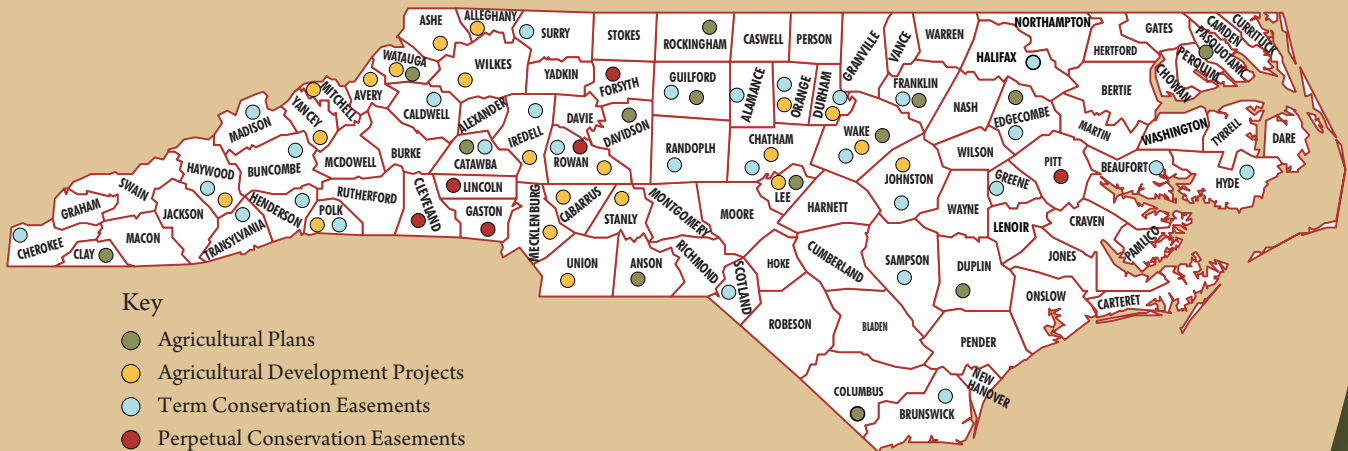
### ADFP Trust Fund Budget History



A total of \$44,000 in funding was available for the Pilot Project. The ADFP Trust Fund was given a budget of \$8,000,000 in Cycle I. Since the end of Cycle I, grant allocation has subsequently been reduced due to economic conditions. At the time of publication, applications were being reviewed for Cycle III; the operating budget allotted for this upcoming grant year is \$2,000,000.

## ADFP Cycle II Grant Applicants

The applicants for the ADFP 2009-2010 grant cycle propose to benefit the following counties. This map contains only specific counties named in the applications and does not include regional or statewide projects.



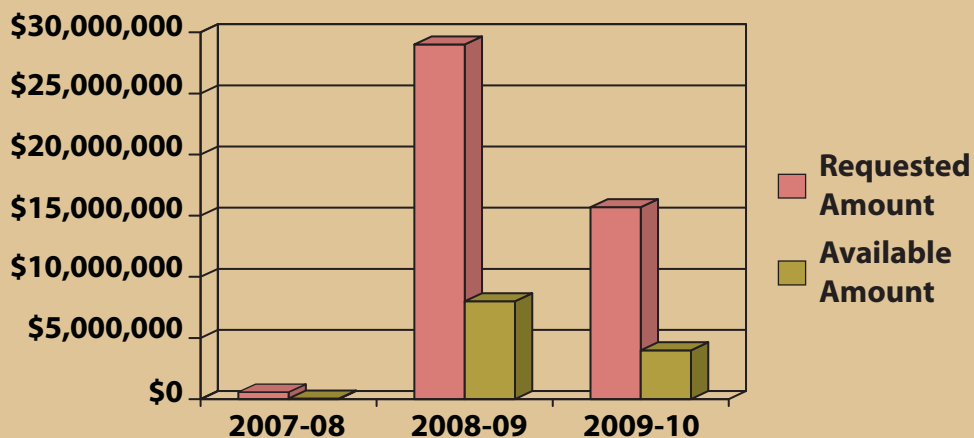
\*Physical property location of easement application is noted, and location of grant applicant organization may not be represented.

### 2009-10 Grant Cycle Applications

| Application Type                 | Number of Applications | Requested Grant Amount | Estimated Project Value |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Perpetual Conservation Easements | 41                     | \$13,150,280           | \$38,902,849            |
| Term Conservation Easements      | 6                      | \$1,833,898            | \$3,164,100             |
| Agricultural Plans               | 14                     | \$331,392              | \$523,340               |
| Development Projects             | 9                      | \$382,750              | \$6,528,350             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>70</b>              | <b>\$15,698,320</b>    | <b>\$49,118,639</b>     |

The Trust Fund received applications representing 55 counties throughout the state.

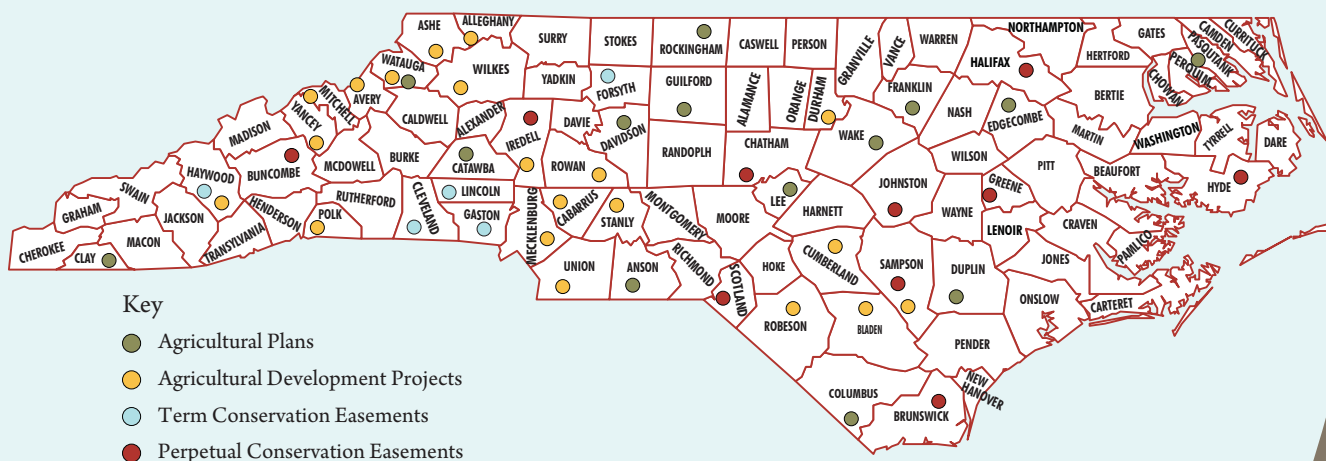
### ADFP Trust Fund Application Requests 2007-Present





## ADFP Cycle II Grant Recipients

The following counties have been selected for funding in the ADFP 2009-2010 grant cycle. This map contains only specific counties named in the applications and does not include regional or statewide projects. Physical property location of easement award is noted, and location of grant recipient organization may not be represented.



\*This map also does not take into account the counties that have more than one proposal of each application type selected for funding (i.e. if a county has applied for funding for 3 enterprise projects then only 1 is represented on the map).

## Public & Private Enterprise Programs

| Awarded:                           | Match:           | Estimated Project Total:           |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>\$609,042</b>                   | <b>\$377,587</b> | <b>\$986,629</b>                   |
| Agricultural Development Projects  |                  | Agricultural Plans                 |
| Awarded: \$277,650                 |                  | Awarded: \$331,392                 |
| Match: \$192,678                   |                  | Match: \$184,909                   |
| Estimated Project Total: \$470,328 |                  | Estimated Project Total: \$516,301 |

## Easements

| Awarded:                             | Match:              | Estimated Project Total:              |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>\$3,374,981</b>                   | <b>\$12,098,773</b> | <b>\$15,473,754</b>                   |
| Term Easements                       |                     | Perpetual Easements                   |
| Awarded: \$428,223                   |                     | Awarded: \$2,946,758                  |
| Match: \$798,777                     |                     | Match: \$11,299,996                   |
| Estimated Project Total: \$1,227,000 |                     | Estimated Project Total: \$14,246,754 |

# Grants Awarded

## Agricultural Plans

### Anson County VAD/EVAD Program

Award: \$8,500

Match: \$8,545

Estimated Project Value: \$17,045

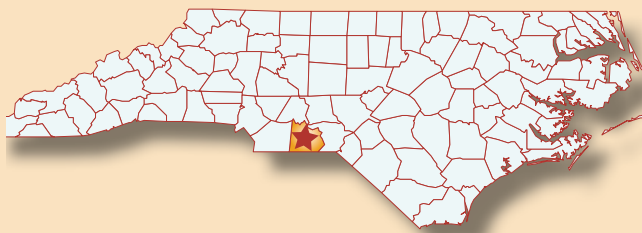
Target Area: Anson County

Grantee: Anson County

Partner: Anson County Cooperative Extension

Contact: Janine B. Rywak, County Extension Director

Description: This grant will be used to establish a VAD program and to develop a county-wide Farmland Protection plan.



### Catawba County VAD Program

Award: \$5,750

Match: \$4,200

Estimated Project Value: \$9,950

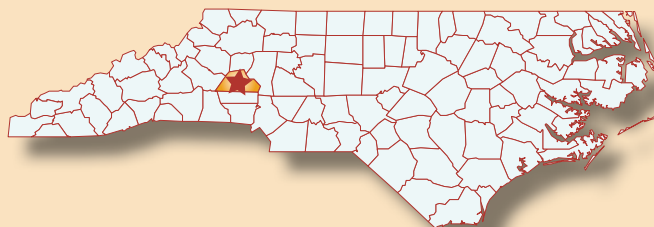
Target Area: Catawba County

Grantee: Catawba County Planning, Parks and Development

Partners: Catawba County Planning, Parks and Development, Catawba County Cooperative Extension

Contact: Mary K. George, Assistant Planning Director

Description: Catawba County adopted a VAD/EVAD ordinance and intends to advertise their newly adopted plan, as well as recruit farmers and educate the public on the VAD/EVAD program in Catawba County.



### Clay County Farmland Protection Plan

Award: \$35,000

Match: \$22,250

Estimated Project Value: \$57,250

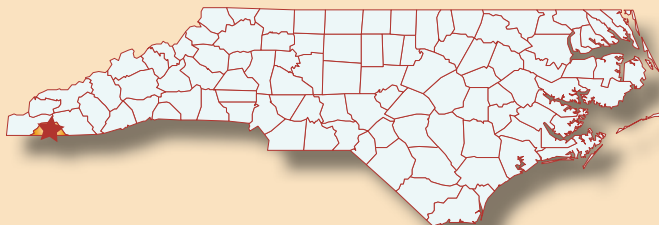
Target Area: Clay County

Grantee: Clay County Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: Clay County, Clay County SWCD Board, Clay County Cooperative Extension, NCDA&CS, N.C. CWMTE, Hiawasee River Watershed Coalition, Land Trust for the Little Tennessee, USDA/RC&D, USDA/NRCS, N.C. Forest Service, US Forest Service

Contact: Leanna Staton, Administrative Assistant

Description: Clay County will use grant funds to establish a Farmland Protection Plan. Clay County Soil & Water Conservation Service is the lead agency on this project.





### ***Columbus County VAD Program***

Award: \$3,000

Match: \$1,000

Estimated Project Value: \$4,000

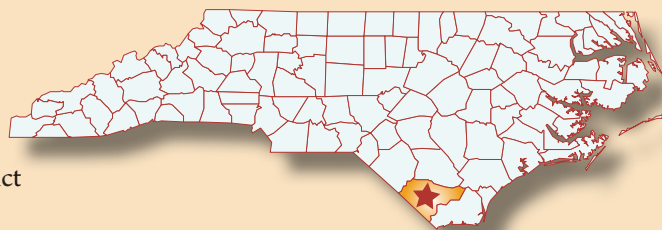
Grantee: Columbus County Soil & Water Conservation District

Target Area: Columbus County

Contact: Edward E. Davis, Director

Partners: Columbus SWCD, Cape Fear RC&D

Description: Funds will be used to raise awareness and promote the VAD program in Columbus County. Columbus County SWCD will be administering this project.



### ***Davidson County Farmland Protection Plan***

Award: \$25,000

Match: \$10,725

Estimated Project Value: \$35,725

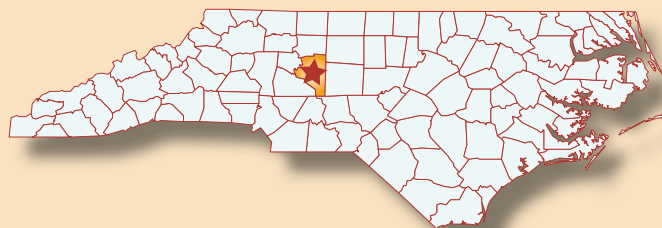
Target Area: Davidson County

Grantee: Davidson County Cooperative Extension

Partners: Davidson County Cooperative Extension, Davidson County SWCD, Davidson County Planning and Zoning Department, Davidson County Government, Davidson County VAD Board, Davidson County Farm Bureau, Cooperative Extension Advisory Leadership System

Contact: Carl McKnight, Davidson County CES Director

Description: This project will develop and implement a Farmland Protection Plan for Davidson County.



### ***Duplin County Farmland Protection Plan***

Award: \$ 39,530

Match: \$ 32,720

Estimated Project Value: \$72,250

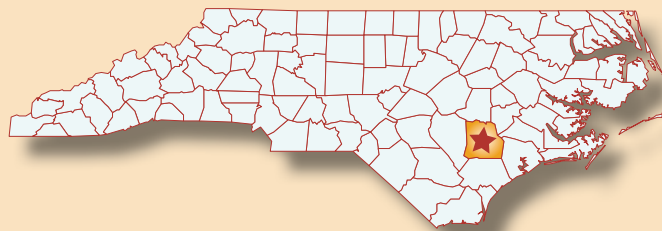
Target Area: Duplin County

Grantee: Duplin County

Partners: Duplin County SWCD, Duplin County Cooperative Extension, Duplin County Planning and Zoning Department, Duplin County Agricultural Center

Contact: Ed Emory, County Extension Director

Description: This grant will be used to develop a county-wide Farmland Protection Plan.



### ***Edgecombe County Farmland Protection Plan***

Award: \$37,700

Match: \$19,300

Estimated Project Value: \$57,000

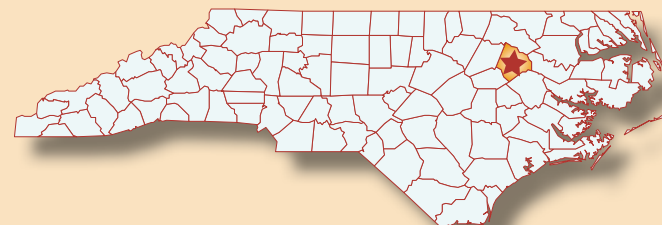
Target Area: Edgecombe County

Grantee: Edgecombe County

Partners: Edgecombe County, Edgecombe SWCD, Edgecombe Extension Center, Edgecombe County Planning and Inspection, Edgecombe County Tax Assessor

Contact: Margaret Knight, District Director

Description: This project will develop and implement a county Farmland Protection Plan.



## *North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund*

### *Franklin County Farmland Protection Plan*

Award: \$34,000

Match: \$16,800

Estimated Project Value: \$50,800

Target Area: Franklin County

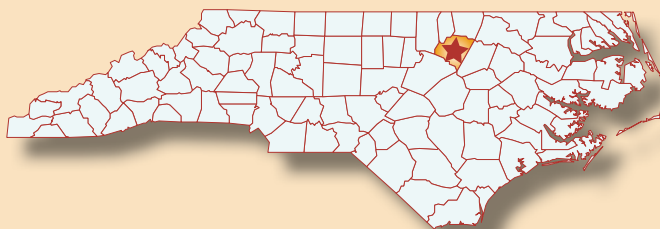
Grantee: Franklin County Cooperative Extension

Partners: Franklin County Planning and Development, Franklin County GIS/Information Technology Service, N.C.

Cooperative Extension, Franklin County Center, Franklin County Agricultural Center

Contact: Martha L. Mobley, Agriculture Extension Agent

Description: This project will develop and implement a Farmland Protection Plan for Franklin County. N.C. Cooperative Extension, Franklin County Center will be administering this project for the county.



### *Guilford County Farmland Protection Plan*

Award: \$31,200

Match: \$10,400

Estimated Project Value: \$41,600

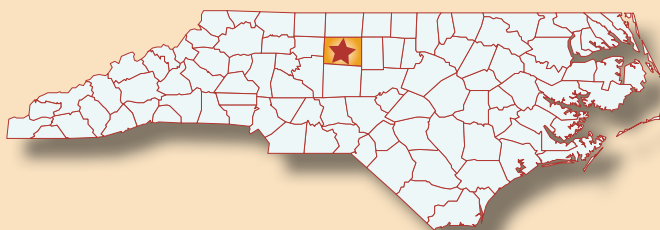
Target Area: Guilford County

Grantee: Piedmont Conservation Council

Partners: Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, Guilford Soil & Water Conservation District

Contact: Rudy Langle, Chairman

Description: With this grant, a County Farmland Protection Plan will be developed for Guilford County.



### *Lee County VAD Program*

Award: \$8,212

Match: \$8,208

Estimated Project Value: \$16,420

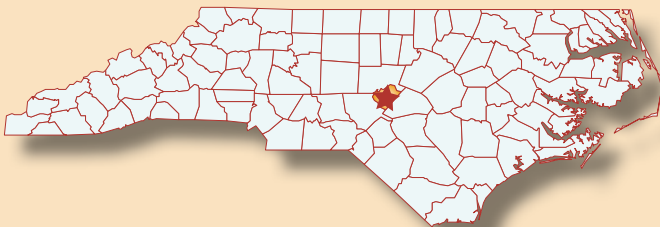
Target Area: Lee

Grantee: Lee County Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: Lee County SWCD, Lee County Cooperative Extension, Lee County Government, Lee County Agriculture Advisory Board

Contact: Tommy Brooks, Soil Conservationist; Mike Gaster, Chairman, Lee SWCD Board

Description: Lee County was awarded a grant to establish a VAD program and to develop a county-wide Farmland Protection Plan.



### *Pasquotank County VAD Program*

Award: \$11,000

Match: \$3,500

Estimated Project Value: \$14,500

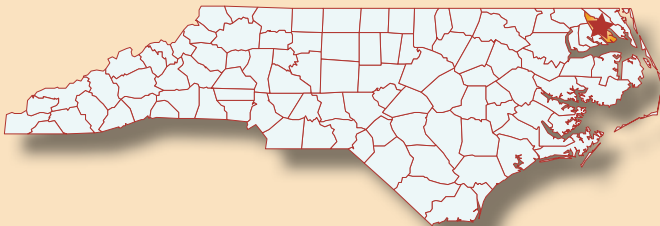
Target Area: Pasquotank County

Grantee: Pasquotank County Cooperative Extension

Partners: Pasquotank County, Pasquotank County Cooperative Extension Service

Contact: Travis Burke, County Extension Director

Description: This grant will be used to establish a VAD program as well as a VAD advisory board for Pasquotank County.





### Rockingham County Farmland Protection Plan

Award: \$30,000

Match: \$9,700

Estimated Project Value: \$39,700

Target Area: Rockingham County

Grantee: Rockingham County Soil & Water Conservation District

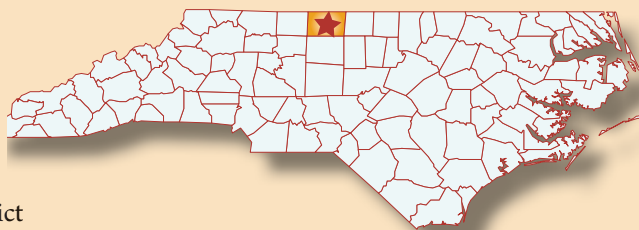
Partners: Rockingham County SWCD, Rockingham County Extension,

Dan River Basin Association, Rockingham County Planning Department, Rockingham County GIS Department,

Rockingham County Farm Bureau

Contact: Larry Baker, Chairman

Description: Funds will help establish a Farmland Protection Plan in Rockingham County



### Wake County EVAD Program

Award: \$32,500

Match: \$25,350

Estimated Project Value: \$57,850

Target Area: Wake County

Grantee: Wake County Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: Wake Soil & Water Conservation District, N.C. Division of Forestry Resources-

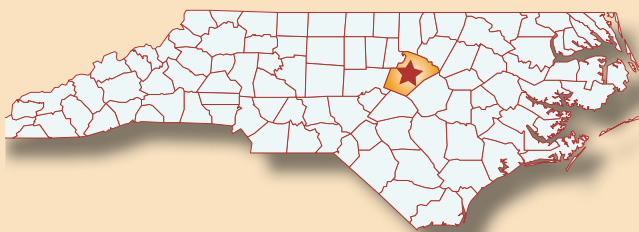
Outreach and County, Wake County Cooperative Extension, Agribusiness Council, Triangle Land Conservancy, Wake

County Parks, Recreation & Open Space, Wake County GIS Department, Wake County Planning Department, USDA

Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Farm Service Agency

Contact: Dale Threatt-Taylor, District Director

Description: This grant will be used to establish an Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District Program in Wake County.



### Watauga County Farmland Protection Plan

Award: \$30,000

Match: \$13,750

Estimated Project Value: \$43,750

Target Area: Watauga County

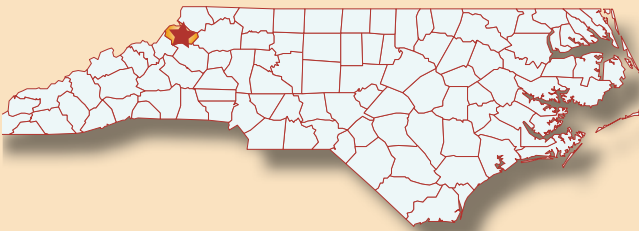
Grantee: Watauga County

Partners: Appalachian State University, Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project, Maverick Farms, N.C. Cooperative

Extension, Unique Places LLC, USDA-NRCS, Watauga Soil & Water Conservation District

Contact: Brian Chatham, Soil Conservation Technician

Description: This project will develop and implement a Farmland Protection Plan for Watauga County.



## *Development Projects*

### *Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project*

Award: \$9,250

Match: \$5,000

Estimated Project Value: \$14,250

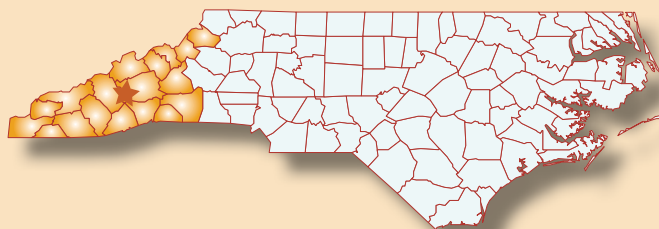
Target Area: Western N.C.

Grantee: Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Partner: WK Kellogg Foundation

Contact: Charlie Jackson, Executive Director

Description: “The Mixing Bowl” is a publication that connects local food suppliers and buyers in Western N.C. The creation of this publication is due to a grant from the ADFP Trust Fund Program in Cycle I. The goal of this project is to expand the size and scope of “The Mixing Bowl” to two publications; one focused on the High Country in the state, and the other concentrating on the central mountains.



### *NC Farm Center Community Farming*

Award: \$48,900

Match: \$22,400

Estimated Project Value: \$71,300

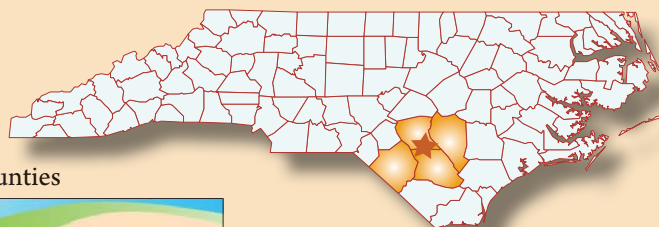
Target Area: Cumberland, Bladen, Robeson and Sampson Counties

Grantee: N.C. Farm Center

Partners: N.C. Farm Center

Contact: Richard Perritt, Executive Director

Description: The primary goal of this project is to develop 25-35 acres of farming area that is suitable for planting food crops and use by multiple local farming agencies. Each organization will be invited to manage two-acre plots of farmland. This project will assist low-income farmers continue to farm by accessing these lands and services provided by the N.C. Farm Center.



### *North Carolina Farm Transition Network*

Award: \$35,500

Match: \$13,500

Estimated Project Value: \$49,000

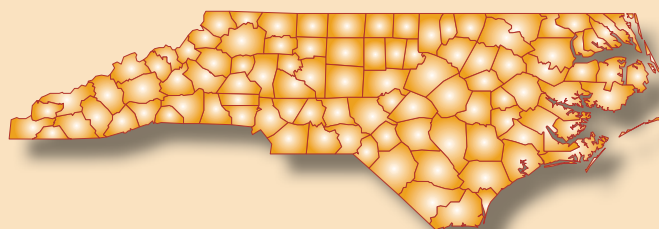
Target Area: Statewide

Grantee: North Carolina Farm Transition Network

Partners: N.C. Risk Management Agency, California Farmlink

Contact: Andrew Branan, Executive Director

Description: This grant will provide funding to develop a program for financing beginning farmer loan applications as well as set up an agricultural Individual Development Account Program in North Carolina. This will help enhance the role local and community banks play in beginning and local farmer financing.





## North Carolina Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation

Award: \$50,000

Match: \$50,100

Estimated Project Value: \$100,100

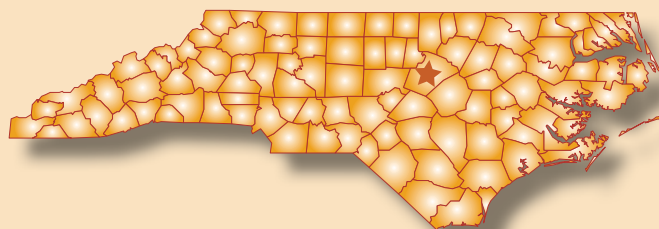
Target Area: Statewide

Grantee: North Carolina Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation

Partners: NCASWCD, N.C. Farm Bureau, N.C. State Grange, NCFSWC, Cabarrus SWCD, Harnett SWCD, Wilkes SWCD, Columbus SWCD, Person SWCD, Stanly SWCD, Stokes SWCD, Franklin SWCD, Durham SWCD, Carteret SWCD, Davidson SWCD, Hertford SWCD, Forsyth SWCD, Haywood SWCD, Avery SWCD, Guilford SWCD, Orange SWCD, N.C. District Employees Association

Contact: Cecil Settle, Executive Director

Description: Funding will assist N.C. Soil and Water Conservation Districts to analyze the status of 96 conservation districts and provide leadership and guidance in preserving farms and forests, in turn strengthening the State economy. A headquarters will also be established. Guidelines and operating systems will also be implemented.



## Piedmont Farmers Market, Inc.

Award: \$50,000

Match: \$16,000

Estimated Project Value: \$66,000

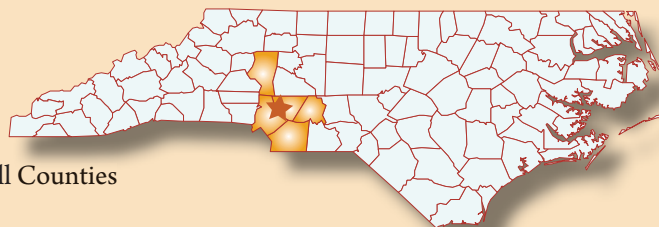
Target Area: Cabarrus, Union, Stanly, Mecklenburg and Iredell Counties

Grantee: Piedmont Farmers Market, Inc.

Partners: Piedmont Farmers Market, Inc.

Contact: Jeff Williams, President

Description: The primary goal of this project is to increase profitability of farmers by developing multiple smaller farmers markets. The grant will also help fund marketing efforts to make customers aware of the new farmer's market locations.



## Polk County

Award: \$34,000

Match: \$35,678

Estimated Project Value: \$69,678

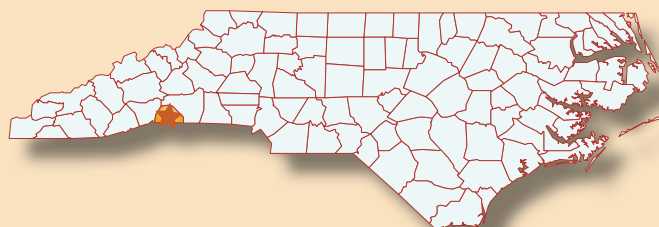
Target Area: Polk County

Grantee: Polk County

Partners: Polk County

Contact: Lynn Sprague, Agricultural Economic Development Director

Description: Funds will help connect many small and beginning farmers with community and business opportunities. Marketing and training resources will also be made available to these farmers, in turn reconnecting the community with agriculture.



## *North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund*

### *WNC Communities*

Award: \$50,000

Match: \$50,000

Estimated Project Value: \$100,000

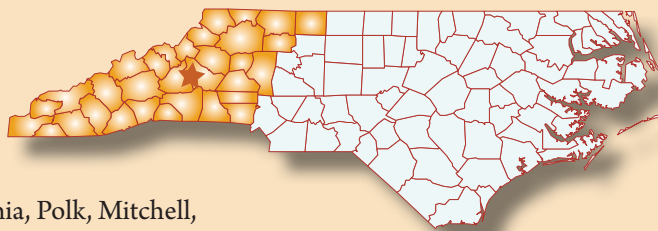
Target Area: Haywood, Buncombe, Madison, Rutherford, Yancey, Henderson, Cherokee, Macon, Burke, Clay, Transylvania, Polk, Mitchell, Jackson, Graham, Swain, McDowell and Avery Counties

Grantee: WNC Communities

Partners: N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission

Contact: L.T. Ward, Vice President

Description: The goals of this project are to serve the needs of Western NC's livestock producers by designing, building and operating a livestock marketing facility. Grant funding will aid in the site design phase of the project. The new facility goals will include more profitable livestock operations and farmland preservation.



### *Easements*

#### *The Meadowlark Farm*

Grantee: Brunswick Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: N.C. Foundation for Soil & Water

Award: \$17,000

Match: \$1,320,500

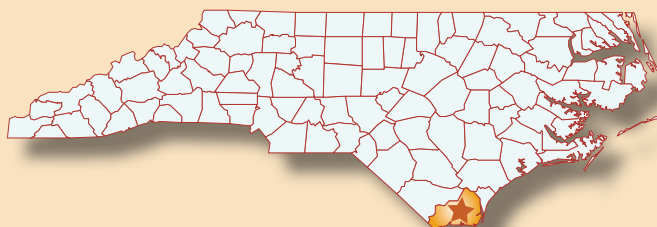
Estimated Project Value: \$1,337,500

Acreage: 104

County: Brunswick

Production: Hay, corn

Description: Brunswick SWCD was awarded \$17,000 to assist in the purchase of 104 acres of the Meadowlark Farm in Brunswick County, which produces hay and corn.



#### *Snelson Sycamore Valley Farm*

Grantee: Buncombe County

Partners: Buncombe County, USDA-NRCS, Soil & Water Foundation

Award: \$345,206

Match: \$194,667

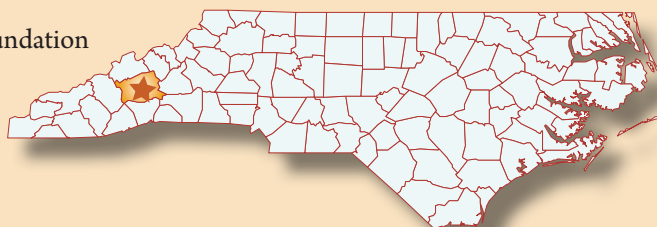
Estimated Project Value: \$539,873

Acreage: 140

County: Buncombe

Production: Livestock, produce, hay and timber

Description: Buncombe County was awarded \$345,206 to assist in purchasing 140 acres of the Snelson Sycamore Valley Farm. This farm is a 150-year-old, six-generation, working farm that produces livestock, produce, hay and timber, and includes a produce store on-site.



### ***Dykers New Hope Farm***

Grantee: Chatham County Soil & Water Conservation District  
Partners: USDA-NRCS, Clean Water Management Trust Fund, Triangle  
Land Conservancy, Chatham County Soil & Water Conservation District

Award: \$321,000

Match: \$885,900

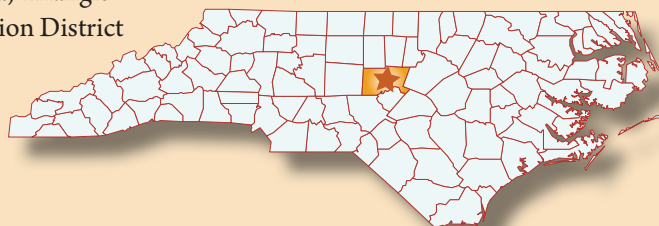
Estimated Project Value: \$1,206,900

Acreage: 280

County: Chatham

Production: Livestock

Description: Chatham SWCD was awarded \$321,000 to assist with purchasing a conservation easement on 280 acres on the Dykers New Hope Farm, which produces livestock.



### ***Wilkie Farm***

Grantee: Fishing Creek Soil & Conservation District  
Partners: Fishing Creek Soil & Water Conservation District

Award: \$180,500

Match: \$70,100

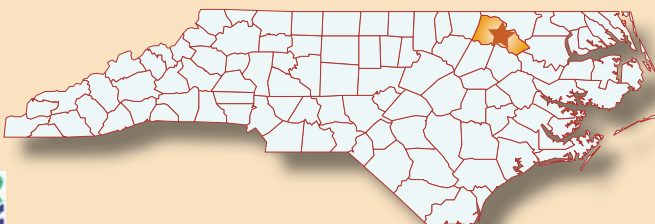
Estimated Project Value: \$250,600

Acreage: 128

County: Halifax

Production: Corn, soybeans

Description: Fishing Creek SWCD was awarded \$180,500 to assist in purchasing a conservation easement on 128 acres of the Wilkie Farm, which produces corn and soybeans.



### ***Rush Fork: Margaret Palmer***

Grantee: Haywood County Soil & Water Conservation District  
Partners: Haywood County Soil & Water Conservation District, Rush Fork Enterprises

Award: \$214,860

Match: \$319,640

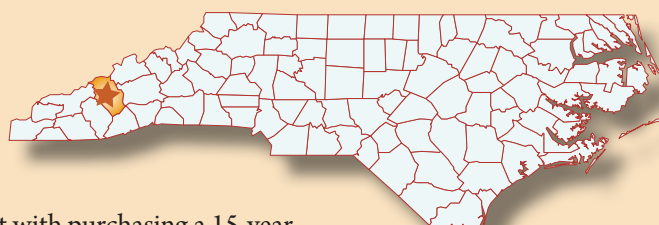
Estimated Project Value: \$534,500

Acreage: 322

County: Haywood

Production: Livestock, poultry, corn, hay, wheat

Description: Haywood SWCD was awarded \$214,860 to assist with purchasing a 15-year conservation easement on 322 acres of Haywood County farmland, which produces livestock, poultry, corn, hay and wheat.





*North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund*

***Rush Fork: Chris Palmer***

Grantee: Haywood County Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: Haywood County Soil & Water Conservation District

Award: \$213,363

Match: \$479,137

Estimated Project Value: \$692,500

Acreage: 325

County: Haywood

Production: Corn, hay, wheat, livestock, timber

Description: Haywood SWCD was awarded \$213,363 to assist with purchasing a 20-year conservation easement on farmland in Haywood County.



***Curtis Holbert/New Lake Farm***

Grantee: Hyde County Soil & Water Conservation District

Partners: Curtis Holbert/New Lake Farm

Award: \$254,595

Match: \$120,555

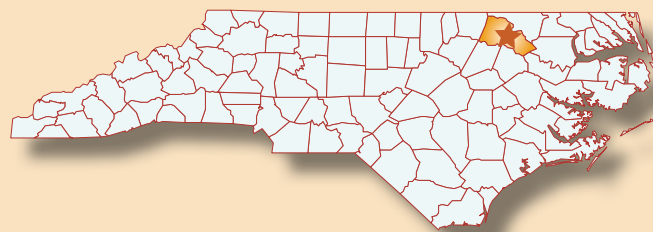
Estimated Project Value: \$375,150

Acreage: 250

County: Hyde

Production: Wheat, corn, soybeans

Description: Hyde County SWCD received monies to help purchase a conservation easement on the New Lake Farm.



***The Bynum Farm***

Grantee: North Carolina Coastal Land Trust

Partners: N.C. Attorney General's Office

Award: \$20,000

Match: \$255,500

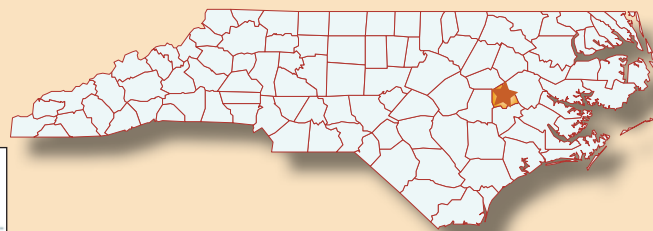
Estimated Project Value: \$275,500

Acreage: 38 Acres

County: Greene

Production: Cotton, corn, beans

Description: North Carolina Coastal Land Trust was awarded \$20,000 to assist with purchasing a conservation easement on the Bynum Farm.



### *The Jackson Farm*

Grantee: North Carolina Coastal Land Trust

Partners: N.C. Attorney General's Office

Award: \$20,000

Match: \$288,000

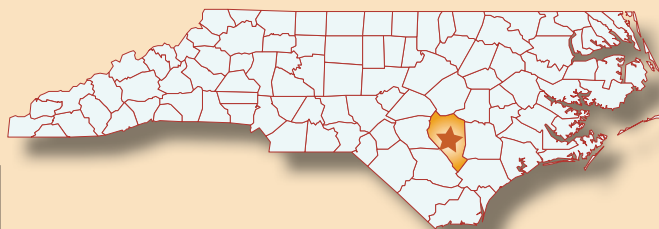
Estimated Project Value: \$308,000

Acreage: 90

County: Sampson

Production: Agritourism, hay, produce

Description: North Carolina Coastal Land Trust received \$20,000 to assist in purchasing a conservation easement on 90 acres of the Jackson Farm.



### *The Gainey Farm*

Grantee: Sandhills Area Land Trust

Partners: Sandhills Area Land Trust, Woodland Management, USDA-NRCS

Award: \$250,000

Match: \$110,000

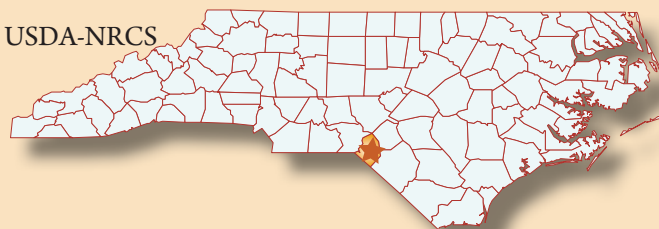
Estimated Project Value: \$360,000

Acreage: 146

County: Scotland

Production: Wheat, corn, soybeans

Description: Sandhills Area Land Trust received \$250,000 to help purchase a conservation easement on 146 acres of the Gainey Farm, located in Scotland County.



### *The Claxton Farm*

Grantee: Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy

Partners: Buncombe County, Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy

Award: \$200,000

Match: \$5,863,600

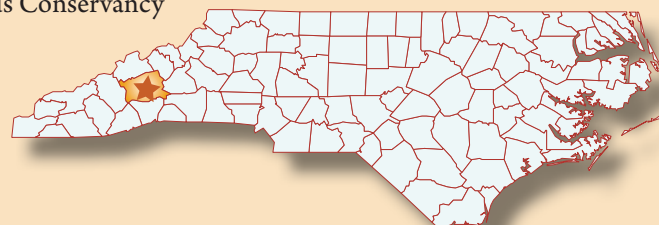
Estimated Project Value: \$6,063,600

Acreage: 500

County: Buncombe

Production: Livestock, hay

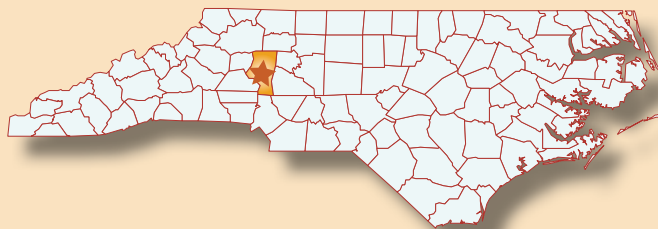
Description: Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy was awarded \$200,000 to purchase a conservation easement on 500 acres of the Claxton Farm, which produces livestock and hay.



## *North Carolina Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund*

### *The Ha-Ho Dairy Farm*

Grantee: The Land Trust for Central N.C.  
Partners: Tobacco Trust Fund, USDA-NRCS  
Award: \$524,357  
Match: \$528,620  
Estimated Project Value: \$1,052,977  
Acreage: 256  
County: Iredell

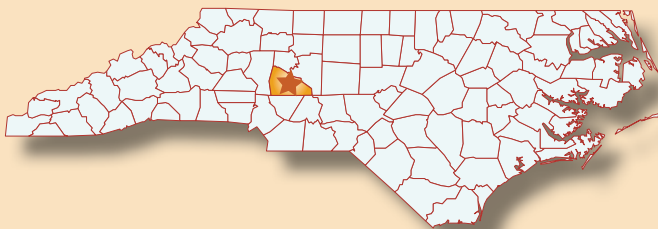


Production: Corn, soybeans, hay, livestock

Description: The Land Trust for Central N.C. received \$528,620 to assist with purchasing a conservation easement on 256 acres of the Ha-Ho Dairy Farm. This Iredell County farm has been operated by the same family since 1915.

### *The Hoffner Dairy Farm*

Grantee: The Land Trust for Central N.C.  
Partners: USDA-NRCS, The Land Trust for Central N.C.  
Award: \$345,600  
Match: \$1,003,553  
Estimated Project Value: \$1,349,153  
Acreage: 260  
County: Rowan

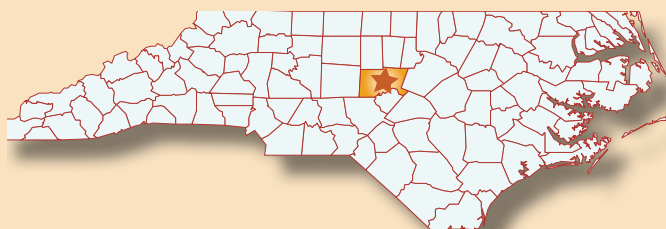


Production: Livestock, hay, soybeans, corn

Description: Funds were awarded to The Land Trust for Central N.C. to assist in purchasing 260 acres of the Hoffner Dairy Farm. The Hoffner Dairy Farm is North Carolina's first organic dairy farm.

### *The Dow Ayrshire Farm*

Grantee: Triangle Land Conservancy  
Partners: Clean Water Management Trust Fund, Triangle Land Conservancy  
Award: \$96,000  
Match: \$73,500  
Estimated Project Value: \$169,500  
Acreage: 15  
County: Chatham

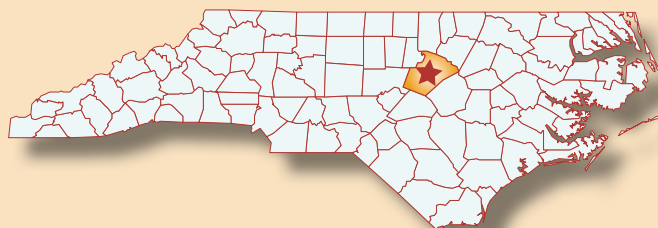


Production: Fruits, vegetables, agritourism

Description: Triangle Land Conservancy received \$96,000 to assist with the purchase of a conservation easement on 15 acres of The Dow Ayrshire Farm. The Chatham County Farm is North Carolina's first certified organic farm.

### *The Bunn Farm*

Grantee: Triangle Land Conservancy  
Partners: USDA-NRCS, Triangle Land Conservancy  
Award: \$372,500  
Match: \$598,500  
Estimated Project Value: \$970,000  
Acreage: 289  
County: Wake



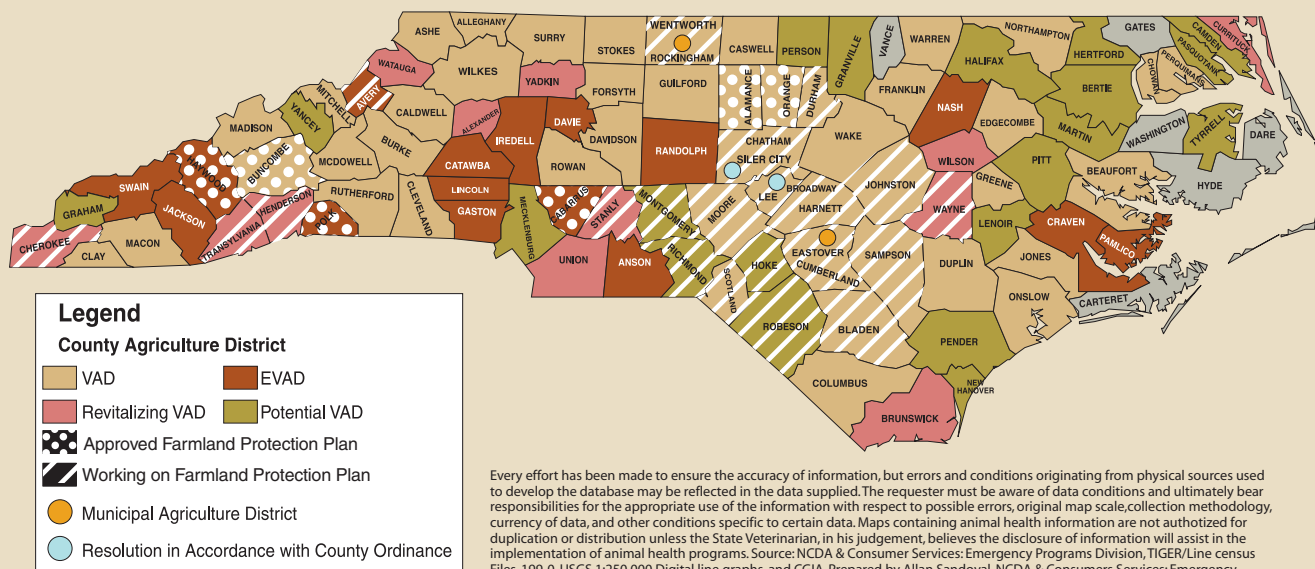
Production: Tobacco, sweet potatoes, wheat, soybeans

Description: \$372,500 was awarded to Triangle Land Conservancy to assist in purchasing a conservation easement on 289 acres of The Bunn Farm, which produces tobacco, sweet potatoes, wheat and soybeans.



## Local Farmland Preservation Efforts

# VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURE DISTRICTS



Revised 1-6-2010

In the last year the farmland preservation program has seen the following growth:

- From **63** counties with Voluntary Agricultural Districts to **74** counties.
- From **7** counties with Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts to **16** counties.
- **6** county-wide Farmland Protection Plans written and implemented.

Please visit our Web site at [www.ncadfp.org](http://www.ncadfp.org) for additional information.

## *ADFP Outreach*

### *ADFP Trust Fund Web site*

The Trust Fund's Web site has been recently updated for better accessibility. The program's Web site includes the history of the ADFP Trust Fund, a list of past grant recipients, reporting forms for current grantees, an archive of ADFP newsletters and a frequently asked questions section. Also included are links to other governmental and non-profit organizations' Web sites relating to farmland preservation and conservation. The Web site can be accessed at [www.ncadfp.org](http://www.ncadfp.org).

### *Outreach Efforts*

For the past two years the ADFP Trust Fund has been invited to attend and participate in The Southern Farm Show, which is the largest agricultural exhibition in Virginia and the Carolinas, where the Trust Fund staff hosted an exhibit to educate and inform the public about the Trust Fund and the importance of farmland preservation. In addition to these shows, the ADFP Trust Fund also participated in the N.C. State Fair, The Reunion and Keeping The Farm Workshop, Century Farm, various farmland preservation workshops and agritourism events. The feedback we receive at these events has been overwhelmingly positive and shows that farmland preservation is an important issue to the residents of our state.









North Carolina  
Agricultural Development  
and Farmland Preservation  
Trust Fund



Report prepared by the  
N.C. Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services  
Steve Troxler, Commissioner

For more information contact the N.C. Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund at:  
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