

How to Find a Partner to Hold an Agricultural Land Easement



Agricultural Land Easements

Agricultural Land Easements help private and tribal landowners, land trusts, and other entities such as state and local governments protect working farms and ranches by limiting nonagricultural uses of the land through conservation easements.

Who is Eligible?

Eligible partners include American Indian tribes, state and local governments, and nongovernmental organizations that have farmland, rangeland, or grassland protection programs.

Eligible landowners include owners of privately held land including land that is held by tribes and tribal members.

All landowners, including members of landowner-legal entities, must meet adjusted gross income (AGI) limitations and must be compliant with the Highly Erodible Land/Wetland Compliance (HEL/WC) provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985.

What Land is Eligible?

Land eligible for agricultural easements includes private or Tribal agricultural land, cropland, rangeland, grassland, pastureland, and nonindustrial private forest land. NRCS prioritizes applications that protect agricultural uses and keeps a farm or a ranch in production agriculture.

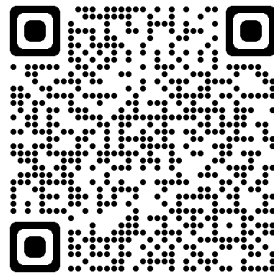
How Does it Work?

NRCS provides financial assistance to eligible partners to purchase Agricultural Land Easements that protect the agricultural uses. Partners, in turn, work with interested landowners to enroll their land in an Agricultural Land Easement.

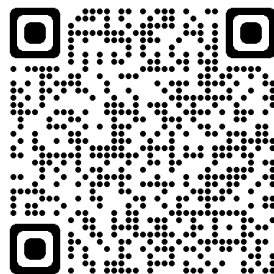
How do I Find a Partner to Hold my Easement?

Visit the following websites to learn how to find an eligible partner to hold conservation easements.

[Farmland Protection Directory](#)

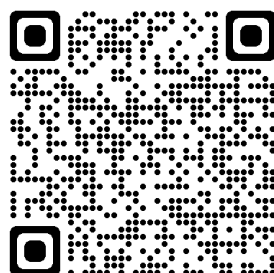


[Land Trust Alliance](#)



Find Your Local NRCS Office

[Service Center Locator](#)



Benefits

The Agricultural Land Easements component of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's [Agricultural Conservation Easement Program](#) protects the long-term viability of the nation's food supply by preventing conversion of productive working lands, including grasslands and related conservation values, to nonagricultural uses.

Land protected by agricultural land easements provides additional public benefits, including environmental quality, historic preservation, wildlife habitat, and protection of open space.

Agricultural Land Easements also leverage local partnerships to match NRCS funding.

Local partners are responsible for the long-term stewardship of the easement.

For More Information

To learn more about Agricultural Land Easements, contact your [local NRCS office](#).

You can also read more about the [Agricultural Conservation Easement Program](#) on the NRCS website at www.nrcs.usda.gov.

