

Farmland Preservation

40,000 ACRES LOST SINCE 1982

You see it all around you. The Eastern Panhandle is losing its farmland, open space and scenic beauty. From 1982 to 1997, WV lost over 100,000 acres of farmland and 40% of the state's loss is in the Eastern Panhandle. In a recent 10 year period, about 25,000 people have move to the Eastern Panhandle.

What is Being Done?

THE BCFPB WAS FORMED IN 2000

Last summer, the Berkeley County Commission created the **Berkeley County Farmland Protection Board (FPB)** under the guidance of a newly created state law called the WV Voluntary Farmland Protection Act. The FPB consists of local farmers and citizens whose purpose is to establish a voluntary farmland protection program. Under the program land owners can voluntarily donate or be compensated for the placement of permanent conservation easements to best ensure the land stays available for agricultural use for future generations. In addition, there are potential Federal estate tax and income tax advantages for participating.

Yes! I want more information

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

CLIP AND MAIL TO:

Berkeley County Farmland Protection Board

P.O. Box 1243

Martinsburg, WV 25402

How Can I Help?

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR FARMS

The FPB, with assistance from state Senator John R. Unger II, has applied for a \$20,000.00 state grant. However, the state grant has a local match requirement of \$10,000.00. With financial support from the Berkeley County Commission, Eastern Panhandle Soil Conservation District and the Land Trust of the Eastern Panhandle, the FPB has raised \$7,000.00 of the local match requirement. We need your help!! Please consider a financial donation to help us start saving Berkeley County's farmland & open space. For every dollar you donate--the state will match with two.

How Can I Learn More?

THE BCFPB MAKES IT EASY!

The FPB is attempting to locate land owners and other interested parties who would like to learn more about the program. If you are interested in learning more, fill in your name & address and we will include you in any future newsletters or other informational mailings. It will only cost you an envelope & the price of a stamp.

- Yes! I have enclosed a tax-deductible donation to assist the efforts to save Berkeley County's farmland and open space.**

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