



1100 E Center Street Marion, OH 43302  
(740) 387-1314 e-mail: michelle.mattix@oh.nacdnet.net

## Landowner Pre-Application for the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP)

Application period: January 14, 2026 – March 12, 2026

**Contact Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Farm Information:**

Farm Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_

List farm parcel numbers (all contiguous parcels under the same legal name) and acres:

If unsure, visit <https://propertysearch.marioncountyohio.gov/Map> or contact the Marion County Auditor's office at (740)223-4020.

<b>Number</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>CAUV(yes or no)</b>	<b>Agricultural District (yes or no)</b>

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.)

Total acres: \_\_\_\_\_



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Legal name of farm ownership entity (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

List the names of all individual owners, members or trustees of the corporation, trust or other legal entity:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Signing Authority (circle Yes or No):</u>
_____	Yes      No
_____	Yes      No
_____	Yes      No
_____	Yes      No
_____	Yes      No

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.)

List all mortgages, lines of credit and other liens against the farm:

<u>Name of Bank/Mortgage Company:</u>	<u>Parcel #s Covered:</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.)

List all active oil & gas leases on the farm:

<u>Name of Oil &amp; Gas Company</u>	<u>Acres Covered:</u>	<u>Parcel #s Covered:</u>
_____	_____	_____

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.)

List approximate acres for each land use for the entire farm:

Grain:	Acres:	Livestock:	#:	Pasture Acres:
Grain:	Acres:	Livestock:	#:	Hay Acres:
Grain:	Acres:	Livestock:	#:	Woodlot/Forested Acres:
Homestead Acres:		CRP, Stream Buffer, Pond Acres:		Other: Acres:
Other:	Acres:	Number of Homes:		Forestry Mgt. Plan:

Does the farm have any historical designations (building or archeological sites) from the National Register of Historic Place, Ohio Historic Inventory, or ODA Century or Bicentennial Farm? Circle all that apply and provide documentation.



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## LANDOWNER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

By signing this pre-application, I understand and acknowledge the following:

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (Marion SWCD) is the Marion County Certified Local Sponsor for the ODA Clean Ohio LAEPP. All available ODA documents, including program requirements and draft easement deeds, are available to at: <https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/programs/farmland-preservation-office>

If an agricultural easement is placed on my land, I understand that I will still own my land and may sell, gift, or otherwise convey it to others. I also understand that **the farm cannot be subdivided after the agricultural easement is placed on it.** Once my application is submitted, and if selected, I understand that ownership changes may delay the easement acquisition process.

I have reviewed and understand the ODA "**Policies and Guidelines for Landowner Application**" requirements, from ODA's website (noted above), and my farm meets ODA's minimum requirements for the Program:

1. My farm is at least 40 acres unless the farm is adjacent to preserved farmland, then it must be a minimum of 25 acres.
2. My farm is enrolled in the Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) program.
3. My farm is enrolled in an Agricultural District.
4. My farm consists of all contiguous parcels with the same legal ownership.
5. Any liens or mortgages on the farm must be subordinated to the easement.
6. The farmland owner must certify the property does not contain hazardous substances.
7. The farmland owner must have followed state and federal agricultural laws for the past five years.
8. The farmland owners must have possession of clear title to the applicant property.

I understand ODA's Farmstead/Homestead Policy which "permits one homestead to be reserved if no housing currently exists on the applicant property. The reservation allows for one-single family home to be built in the future. If housing exists on the property at the time of the application, then no additional residences may be built. Any future or existing house on the preserved farm may not be subdivided from the farm."

Funding for the Program is not guaranteed. Funding for my farm is not guaranteed. This Pre-Application is non-binding. If I receive an offer, I will be asked several times to confirm my willingness to proceed with the agricultural easement purchase process.

**I understand that if the Marion SWCD applies for the LAEPP on my behalf, I will pay the Marion SWCD a \$750.00 application fee before application to ODA.**

I understand that certain expenses are associated with placing an agricultural easement on my land, and that neither ODA nor Marion SWCD will pay for these expenses. These estimated costs to me, as the landowner, are listed in **Attachment A, Landowner Cost Estimator**, of this form.



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I have reviewed and understand the requirements of the ODA LAEPP. Marion SWCD may submit an application to the Program on my behalf. The Program does not allow me to submit an application on my own.

I understand that Marion SWCD cannot and does not provide legal or financial advice and encourages landowners to seek information from their own advisors.

The maximum amount ODA will pay is \$2,000 per acre, using ODA's points-based application. The minimum amount I am willing to accept is \$\_\_\_\_\_ per acre. I understand that the amount I have written here is not binding. Marion SWCD expects me to seriously consider the costs noted in **Attachment A**, and the minimum amount I will accept if an offer is made.

I understand that the information provided or referenced by Marion SWCD in this Pre-Application is current as of\_\_\_\_\_, and all information, timelines and deadlines are subject to change.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landowner Signature or Authorized Representative Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landowner Signature or Authorized Representative Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landowner Signature or Authorized Representative Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

**Please print additional copies of this page if more signature lines are needed.**

Please make a copy of this signed form for your records or ask for a copy when submitting this form.

**This form, with original signatures, must be received at Marion SWCD by 4:30 pm, Wednesday, March 12, 2025. Mail or drop off form to:**

Michelle Mattix, Marion SWCD, 1100 E Center Street Marion, OH 43302.

**For additional information or questions, please contact Michelle Mattix at [michelle.mattix@oh.nacdnet.net](mailto:michelle.mattix@oh.nacdnet.net) or 740-387-1314.**



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**Attachment A-Landowner Cost Estimator**

<b>Estimated costs to me IF my farm is selected for an Agricultural Easement with ODA:</b>		
<b>Item:</b>	<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	<b>Notes:</b>
Easement closing costs (some may be deducted from easement payment at closing)	\$5,000 - \$10,000	Standard title and closing services (title search, examination, recording fees, copies, etc.) will be deducted from proceeds at closing. Title clearing costs must be paid for separately by the landowner.
Possible survey of the farm (if required by ODA)	\$1,000 - \$5,000	Estimate only (may vary based on several factors). <b>The landowner is solely responsible for the survey and its cost. The survey must be completed as soon as possible (if required).</b>
Conservation Plan	\$0	No cost if completed by NRCS or SWCD.
Forestry Management Plan (if needed)	\$500 - \$1,000	Needed if property is more than 20% forested or has more than 40 contiguous wooded acres.
Mortgage Subordination or Payoff	Ask Lender	Lenders may charge a fee for mortgage subordination or early payoff.
<b>Estimate your total costs:</b>	<b>\$</b>	