



**Landowner Intent to Apply Form**

For the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA)

2026 Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP)

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT TO GEAUGA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT: February 28, 2026**

**I. CONTACT INFORMATION**

A. Contact Name:

B. Mailing Address:

C. Email:

D. Day Phone:  Evening Phone:  Cell Phone:

**II. FARM INFORMATION**

A. Farm Name:

B. Farm Address:

C. Township :

D. List Farm Parcel Numbers (all continuous parcels under the same legal name) and acres:

Parcel Number	Acreage	CAUV (Yes/No)	Agricultural District (Yes/No)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed)

**TOTAL ACRES:**

E. Legal name of farm ownership entity (if applicable:):

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

Name:	Signing Authority (circle Yes or No)	
<input type="text"/>	Yes	No
<input type="text"/>	Yes	No
<input type="text"/>	Yes	No

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed)

**G. List all known mortgages, lines of credit and other liens or encumbrances against the farm:**

Name of Bank/Mortgage Company:	Parcel(s) covered

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed)

**H. List all known active oil & gas leases on the farm:**

Name of Oil & Gas Company:	Acres Covered	Parcel(s) covered

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed)

**I. List Approximate acres for each land use in 2024/2025:**

Grain Type	Acres

Livestock Type	Number

Other Type	Acres

Pasture Acres:	
Hay Acres:	
Homestead Acres:	
Stream Buffers/ Pond Acres:	
Woodlot/ Forested:	

Does the farm have a forest management plan?	Yes / No
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### III. LANDOWNER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

By signing this **INTENT TO APPLY form**, I understand and acknowledge the following:

- A. Geauga Board of County Commissioners (Gauga BOCC) is a Certified Local Sponsor for the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA) 2026 Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP). Geauga Soil and Water Conservation District (Gauga SWCD) has been designated by the Geauga BOCC to work with prospective landowners to prepare and submit documents for the program. All available ODA documents, including program requirements and draft easement deeds (subject to revisions), are available to me at: <https://agri.ohio.gov/programs/farmland-preservation-office>.
- B. 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 or new encumbrances may delay the easement acquisition process.
- C. I have reviewed and understand the **ODA 2026 Policies and Guidelines for Landowner Application requirements**, from ODA's website, and my farm meets ODA's minimum requirements for the Program:
1. My farm is at least 40 acres (or 10-39 acres if it shares a substantial border to existing protected land; see ODA *Small Farm Policy*).
  2. My farm is enrolled in the Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV) program.
  3. My farm is enrolled in an Agricultural District. If not, I will enroll it by Friday, February 28, 2026.
  4. My farm consists of all contiguous parcels with the same legal ownership.
- D. 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 application, then no additional residences may be built. Any future or existing house on the preserved farm may not be subdivided from the farm."*
- E. Funding for this Program is not guaranteed. Funding for my farm is not guaranteed. This Intent form 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.
- F. I understand that certain expenses are associated with placing an agricultural easement on my land, and that neither ODA, Geauga SWCD nor Geauga BOCC will pay for these expenses. These estimated costs to me, as the landowner, include title and closing services and survey, if required. These costs will be deducted from you final easement purchase price. These costs could range from \$4000 to \$15,000.
- G. I have reviewed and understand the requirements of ODA LAEPP Program. Geauga SWCD/Geauga BOCC may submit an application on my behalf. The program does not allow me to submit an application on my own.
- H. I understand that Geauga SWCD/Geauga BOCC cannot and does not provide legal or financial advice and encourages landowners to seek information from their own advisors.



- I. The maximum amount ODA will pay is \$2,000 per acre, using ODA’s points-based application with a total not to exceed \$106,810 for 2026. The minimum amount I am willing to accept is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per acre or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ total. I understand that the minimum amount I have written here is not binding. Geauga SWCD/Geauga BOCC expects me to consider seriously the estimated costs listed in "F." above and the minimum amount I will accept if an offer is made.
- J. I understand that the information provided or referenced by Geauga SWCD/Geauga BOCC on this form is current as of the date it is signed below and all information, timelines and deadlines are subject to change. I will ask for copies of any documents referenced in this Intent Form that I cannot locate on my own.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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 by Geauga SWCD by 3:30pm on SATURDAY February 28, 2026. Please additionally email a copy of the form to [cshale@geauga.oh.gov](mailto:cshale@geauga.oh.gov).**

To Drop Off Form:

Geauga SWCD  
12611 Ravenwood Dr, Suite 240  
Chardon, OH 44024

To Mail Form:

Geauga SWCD  
12611 Ravenwood Dr, Suite 240  
Chardon, OH 44024

**For additional information or questions, please contact Carmella Shale at  
440-834-1122 or [cshale@geauga.oh.gov](mailto:cshale@geauga.oh.gov)**

