

STATUS OF STATE PACE PROGRAMS

As of January 2018, 28 states have state-level purchase of agricultural conservation easement (PACE) programs. Three states—Arizona, Georgia, and Missouri—have authorized PACE but do not yet have programs. Montana had a state-level program that was discontinued in 2003 when state authorization expired. This table displays the status and summarizes important information about farm and ranch land protection programs in 29 states that have funded easement acquisitions. For a program to be included, the protection of agricultural lands must be one of its core purposes, accomplished primarily by compensating landowners for the value of the easement.

Some programs (e.g., Delaware and Massachusetts) purchase and hold easements directly. Others have the authority to acquire and co-hold easements with partners (e.g., county governments). Some programs (e.g., New York and Virginia) only provide grants to eligible entities, such as local governments and land trusts, to buy easements.

EXPLANATION OF COLUMN HEADINGS

Year of Inception/Year of First Acquisition

"Year of Inception" is the year in which the PACE program was authorized. "Year of First Acquisition" is the year in which the program acquired its first easement.

Easements or Restrictions Acquired

Number of agricultural conservation easements or conservation restrictions acquired through the program. This number does not necessarily reflect the total number of farms/ranches protected because some programs acquire a property in stages and/or may hold multiple easements on the same farm/ranch. Some programs do not hold easements but instead provide funds for easement purchases to local governments or land trusts.

Acres Protected

Number of acres protected by the program.

Land in Farms

Acres of land in farms as reported in the 2012 Census of Agriculture released by the United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA NASS).

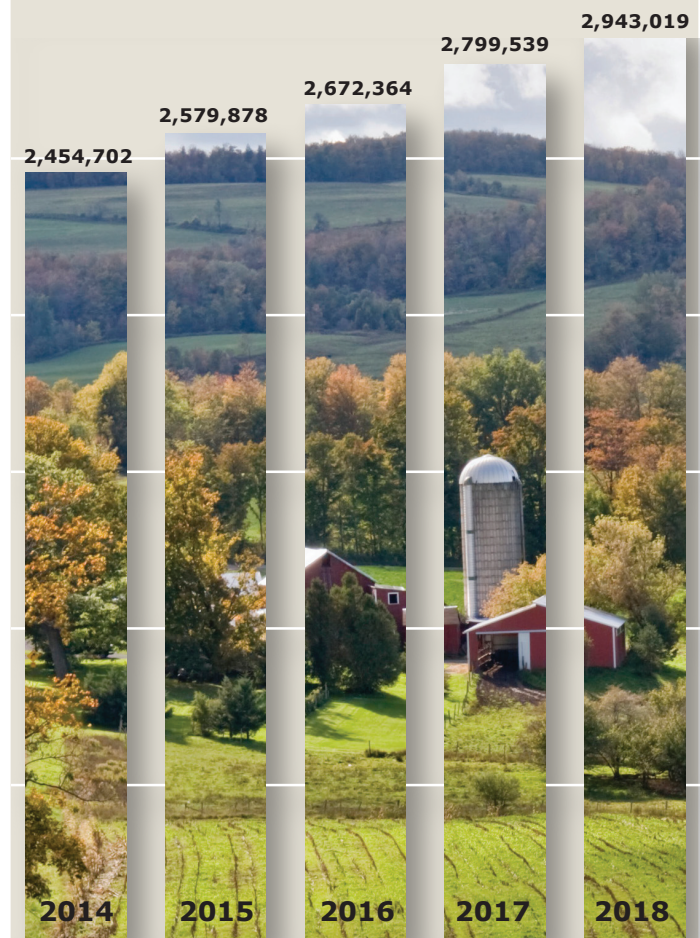
For the purposes of the Census of Agriculture, USDA NASS defines a "farm" as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.

Program Funds Spent to Date

Dollars spent by each program to acquire easements on farms/ranches. This amount may include unspent funds dedicated for installment payments on completed projects. Unless otherwise noted, these figures do not reflect incidental land acquisition costs, such as appraisals, insurance and

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Acres Protected by State PACE Programs



PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAMS

State	Year of Inception/ Year of First Acquisition	Easements or Restrictions Acquired	Acres Protected	Land in Farms (acres)	Program Funds Spent to Date
Alabama					
Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries	2004/2005	21	4,591	8,902,654	\$1,636,866
California					
Agricultural Land Mitigation Program ^{i.}	2016/2017	1	273		\$2,639,047
California Farmland Conservancy Program ^{i.}	1995/1997	184	59,498		\$88,485,139
Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program ^{i.}	2014/2015	8	15,608		\$8,624,800
Colorado					
Great Outdoors Colorado ^{i., ii.}	1992/1995	476	839,045	31,886,676	\$222,984,923
Connecticut					
Farmland Preservation Program ^{i.}	1978/1979	351	43,747	436,539	\$118,142,476
Delaware					
		889	123,755	508,652	\$156,581,912
Agricultural Lands Preservation Program	1991/1996	857	121,258		\$149,292,575
Young Farmer Loan Program	2011/2012	32	2,497		\$7,289,337
Florida					
Rural and Family Lands Protection Program ^{i.}	2001/2001	37	37,490	9,548,342	\$59,788,049
Hawaii					
Legacy Land Conservation Program	2005/2007	12	1,803	1,129,317	\$10,850,000
Kentucky					
Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements	1994/1998	185	32,729	13,049,347	\$13,823,269
Maine					
Farmland Protection Program	1987/1990	42	9,752	1,454,104	\$12,574,122
Maryland					
		2,915	398,832	2,030,745	\$792,446,886
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation	1977/1980	2,252	305,749		\$502,499,222
Rural Legacy Program ^{i., iii.}	1997/1999	663	93,083		\$289,947,664
Massachusetts					
Agricultural Preservation Restriction Program ^{i.}	1977/1980	908	72,444	523,517	\$228,693,541
Michigan					
Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program	1994/1994	136	25,246	9,948,564	\$36,827,248
Montana					
Montana Agricultural Heritage Program ^{iv.}	1999/2000	8	9,923	59,758,917	\$888,000
New Hampshire					
		131	12,350	474,065	\$18,468,337
Agricultural Lands Preservation Program ^{v.2015}	1979/1980	31	2,864		\$5,000,000
Land Conservation Investment Program ^{iv.}	1987/1988	36	6,232		\$5,349,008
Land and Community Heritage Investment Program ^{i.}	2000/2001	64	3,254		\$8,119,329
New Jersey					
New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program	1983/1985	2,525	228,845	715,057	\$1,098,107,147

Notes: For explanation of column headings, please see factsheet text.

i. "Program Funds Spent to Date" includes incidental land acquisition costs and/or personnel costs.

ii. Program activity includes fee simple acquisitions of agricultural land. Great Outdoors Colorado grant recipients are required to resell land acquired in fee subject to a conservation easement.

STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2018

Additional Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Program Funds Available Per Capita	Outstanding Applications	Funding Sources Used to Date	State
Alabama					
\$3,273,731	\$0	\$0.00	N/A	Appropriations, ACEP-ALE	
California					
\$70,298,874	\$42,400,000				
\$6,500	\$100,000	\$0.00	7	Cap and trade auction proceeds	
\$67,971,224	\$1,300,000	\$0.03	0	Appropriations, bonds, mitigation fees, private contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$2,321,150	\$41,000,000	\$1.04	46	Cap and trade auction proceeds	
Colorado					
\$505,941,803	\$10,600,000	\$1.89	39	Local government contributions, lottery proceeds, ACEP-ALE	
Connecticut					
\$33,695,088	\$10,503,319	\$2.93	63	Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, recording fees, ACEP-ALE	
Delaware					
\$65,357,813	\$3,000,000				
\$65,357,813	\$2,700,000	\$2.81	312	Appropriations, bonds, lawsuit settlement funds, license plate revenue, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax relief program withdrawal penalties, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE, federal transportation funding, REPI	
\$0	\$300,000	\$0.31	2	Appropriations, license plate revenue, property tax relief program withdrawal penalties	
Florida					
\$8,297,684	\$16,445,915	\$0.78	110	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, ACEP-ALE, REPI	
Hawaii					
\$15,002,565	N/A	N/A	1	Real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
Kentucky					
\$7,451,666	\$0	\$0.00	3	Appropriations, bonds, tobacco settlement funds, ACEP-ALE, REPI	
Maine					
\$17,162,782	\$300,000	\$0.05	N/A	Appropriations, bonds, credit card royalties, local government contributions, private contributions, ACEP-ALE	
Maryland					
\$215,730,507	\$81,833,169				
\$201,730,507	\$51,323,169	\$8.48	187	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax relief program withdrawal penalties, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
\$14,000,000	\$30,510,000	\$5.04	33	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
Massachusetts					
\$68,597,809	\$6,175,000	\$0.90	34	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, mitigation fees, private contributions, ACEP-ALE, federal transportation funding	
Michigan					
\$8,671,445	\$0	\$0.00	N/A	Local government contributions, private contributions, property tax relief program withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
Montana					
\$1,420,710	\$0	\$0.00	0	Appropriations, ACEP-ALE	
New Hampshire					
\$27,610,383	\$959,000				
\$140,000	\$0	\$0.00	N/A	Appropriations, local government contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$0	\$0	\$0.00	0	Bonds	
\$27,470,383	\$959,000	\$0.71	19	Appropriations, recording fees, ACEP-ALE	
New Jersey					
\$617,454,937	\$105,468,865	\$11.71	205	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, property tax revenue, sale of fee-simple purchased properties, state sales and use tax, ACEP-ALE	

iii. "Program Funds Available" includes money for other land conservation purposes.

iv. Program has terminated or is no longer acquiring agricultural conservation easements.

v. Figures are carried forward from previous PACE tables. Information current as of year indicated.

PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAMS

State	Year of Inception/ Year of First Acquisition	Easements or Restrictions Acquired	Acres Protected	Land in Farms (acres)	Program Funds Spent to Date
New Mexico					
New Mexico Natural Heritage Conservation Program ^{v. 2015}	2010/2010	3	5,930	43,201,023	\$850,000
New York					
Agricultural and Farmland Protection Program ^{i.}	1996/1998	262	66,062	7,183,576	\$158,011,532
North Carolina					
Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund ^{i.}	1986/1999	132	18,586	8,414,756	\$19,298,962
Ohio					
Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program	1999/1999	418	69,534	13,960,604	\$50,102,653
Pennsylvania					
Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program ^{i.}	1988/1989	5,242	544,892	7,704,444	\$959,377,495
Rhode Island					
Farmland Preservation Program	1981/1985	110	7,519	69,589	\$34,481,574
South Carolina					
South Carolina Conservation Bank	2002/2004	65	22,224	4,971,244	\$20,299,854
Texas					
Texas Farm and Ranch Lands Conservation Program ^{i.}	2005/2005	5	6,681	130,153,438	\$1,324,014
Utah					
Critical Agricultural Land Conservation Fund	1999/2001	33	21,474		\$456,000
LeRay McAllister Critical Lands Conservation Fund	1999/2000	43	54,673		\$11,411,174
Vermont					
Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, Farmland Preservation Program ^{i.}	1987/1987	705	164,840	1,251,713	\$77,420,000
Virginia					
Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Land Conservation Foundation ^{i.}	2000/2001	21	9,141		\$4,337,094
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Farmland Preservation Program ^{i.}	2001/2008	92	12,941		\$11,163,803
Washington					
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Farmland Protection Category ^{i.}	2007/2008	62	11,031	14,748,107	\$16,654,963
West Virginia					
West Virginia Agricultural Land Protection Authority, Farmland Protection Program	2000/2009	26	6,436	3,606,674	\$3,818,383
Wisconsin					
Farmland Preservation Program ^{i.}	2009/2011	17	5,124	14,568,926	\$4,824,076
STATE TOTALS		16,065	2,943,019		\$4,245,393,339

Notes: For explanation of column headings, please see factsheet text.

i. "Program Funds Spent to Date" includes incidental land acquisition costs and/or personnel costs.

ii. Program activity includes fee simple acquisitions of agricultural land. Great Outdoors Colorado grant recipients are required to resell land acquired in fee subject to a conservation easement.

STATUS OF STATE PROGRAMS AS OF JANUARY 2018

Additional Funds Spent to Date	Program Funds Available	Program Funds Available Per Capita	Outstanding Applications	Funding Sources Used to Date	State
New Mexico					
\$1,200,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	Appropriations, ACEP-ALE	
New York					
N/A	\$37,800,000	\$1.90	0	Bonds, bottle bill revenue, license plate fees, local government contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
North Carolina					
\$64,608,024	\$2,792,075	\$.27	29	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, ACEP-ALE, REPI	
Ohio					
\$21,082,122	\$8,569,986	\$.74	149	Bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, Southern Ohio Tobacco Agricultural Easement Program, ACEP-ALE	
Pennsylvania					
\$517,091,080	\$74,000,000	\$5.78	1,300	Appropriations, bonds, cigarette tax, interest on securities, local government contributions, municipal landfill fees, property tax revenue, unconventional gas well impact fees, use value assessment withdrawal penalties, ACEP-ALE	
Rhode Island					
\$58,428,110	\$2,700,000	\$2.55	30	Appropriations, bonds, local government contributions, private contributions, ACEP-ALE, federal transportation funding	
South Carolina					
\$0	\$8,146,284	\$1.62	0	Appropriations, real estate transfer tax, recording fees	
Texas					
\$3,413,500	\$1,000,000	\$.04	5	Appropriations, private contributions, ACEP-ALE, Coastal Impact Assistance Program	
Utah					
\$89,568,913	\$0				
\$17,940,126	\$0	\$.00	0	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$71,628,787	\$0	\$.00	0	Appropriations, local government contributions, private contributions, ACEP-ALE	
Vermont					
\$103,530,000	\$2,700,000	\$4.33	60	Appropriations, bonds, Farms for the Future pilot program, local government contributions, mitigation fees, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE, federal transportation funding	
Virginia					
\$19,167,539	\$1,063,917				
\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A	Appropriations	
\$19,167,539	\$1,063,917	\$.13	N/A	Appropriations	
Washington					
\$36,755,924	\$9,612,181	\$1.30	23	Appropriations, bonds, development impact fees, local government contributions, private contributions, real estate transfer tax, ACEP-ALE	
West Virginia					
\$55,506,901	\$3,128,922	\$1.72	121	Appropriations, deed recording fees	
Wisconsin					
\$1,753,907	\$0	\$0.00	0	Bonds, private contributions, ACEP-ALE	
\$2,638,073,817	\$429,198,633		2,778		STATE TOTALS

iii. "Program Funds Available" includes money for other land conservation purposes.

iv. Program has terminated or is no longer acquiring agricultural conservation easements.

v. Figures are carried forward from previous PACE tables. Information current as of year indicated.

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recording fees, or the administrative costs of running the program. These figures do not include additional funds, recording fees, or the administrative costs of running the program. These figures do not include additional funds contributed by federal programs, local governments (counties and municipalities), private land trusts, foundations, and/or individuals.

Additional Funds Spent to Date

Funds contributed toward state program acquisitions by federal programs, local governments, private land trusts, foundations, and/or individuals (see "Funding Sources Used to Date").

Program Funds Available

Program funds available for the current fiscal year to acquire easements on agricultural land.

Program Funds Available Per Capita

Program funds available per capita are based on state population estimates for 2017 from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Outstanding Applications

Backlog of applications reported by program administrators.

Funding Sources Used to Date

Sources of funding for each program. "Federal transportation funding" refers to money disbursed by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration to support transportation alternatives and enhancements.

The Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) provides funds to establish easement-protected buffer areas around military installations.

The federal Coastal Impact Assistance Program authorizes funds to be distributed to oil and gas producing states to mitigate the impacts of oil and gas extraction from the continental shelf.

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) protects agricultural land and conserves wetlands. It consolidates the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), and the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). The Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) component of ACEP provides matching funds to eligible entities to buy conservation easements on farm and ranch land. In the table, ACEP-ALE includes FRPP.

In addition to these sources of funding, several programs reported contributions from private sources.

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For more information on PACE, see the [Purchase of Agricultural Easements](#) fact sheet and [other PACE resources](#) on the Farmland Information Center (FIC) website. The FIC is a clearinghouse for information about farmland protection and stewardship. The FIC is a public/private partnership between the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and American Farmland Trust.