

**Application for Orange County
Farmland Preservation Program
Voluntary and Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District Program**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Before completing the application, please review the VAD/EVAD brochure provided; Complete the form as completely as possible; sign and date the form, and return to:

Orange County Dept. of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation
Soil and Water Conservation Division
1020 US 70 West
Hillsborough, NC 27278 Phone: 919-245-2750

APPLICANT:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

E-Mail: _____

PROPERTY INFORMATION:

Property Location/Address(s): _____

Agriculture District /Township: _____

Parcel Identification Number (PIN): _____ Acres _____

Total Number of Acres on all tracts of land: _____

Does this land have a plan on file with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service or the NC Forest Service?

Yes: _____ No: _____ If "No", please complete last page of form

Is the land enrolled in Present Use Value taxation program with Orange County Tax Office?

Yes: _____ No: _____ If "No", please complete last page of form

CONSERVATION AGREEMENT DETAIL of VAD and EVAD:

Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) conservation agreements are for a period of ten years. The landowner may revoke the agreement through a written request to the Orange County Agricultural Preservation Board. A Conservation Agreement for land within a Voluntary Agricultural District shall be automatically renewed for an additional term of ten years unless either the Agricultural Preservation Board or the landowner(s) gives written notice to the contrary prior to the termination date of the Conservation Agreement. At the end of each ten-year term, the Conservation Agreement shall automatically renew for an additional ten-year term unless notice of termination is given.

Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District (EVAD) conservation agreements are for a period of ten years, but cannot be revoked during the term of the agreement. EVAD enrollment, however, offers landowners additional benefits such as a higher percentage of cost-share funds under the Agricultural Cost Share Program. A Conservation Agreement for an Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District shall be deemed automatically renewed for an additional term of three years unless either the Agricultural Preservation Board or the landowner(s) gives written notice to the contrary prior to the termination date of the Conservation Agreement. At the end of each three-year term the Conservation Agreement shall automatically renew for an additional three-year term unless notice of termination is given.

I [We] have read the Conservation Agreement details above and I [we] understand the benefits of the VAD and/or EVAD program.

Please mark which designation you are requesting enrollment and sign below.

_____ I [WE] ARE SEEKING DESIGNATION AS A **VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT**

_____ I [WE] ARE SEEKING DESIGNATION AS AN **ENHANCED VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT**

Signature: _____ DATE _____

Print name: _____

OWNER[S] CERTIFICATION:

I [We], the applicant[s] and landowner(s), hereby certify that, to the best of my [our] knowledge, the foregoing application is complete and accurate. (All landowners or a designated representative of the family may sign this application.)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please complete this section for general information about your farm and to help staff Update or develop a conservation plan for the farm.

1. How long have you owned your farm? _____ years
2. How long have you lived on your farm? _____ years
3. How many acres on your farm are under cultivation? _____ acres (estimate)
4. What are the major crops you plant each year?

6. How many acres on your farm are used for pasture? _____ acres (estimate)
7. How many acres on your farm are used for woodland/forestry? _____ acres (estimate)
8. If your family has owned and operated the farm over 100 years, would you be interested in the Century Farm Program? This is an Orange County and NC Dept. of Agriculture recognition program for family farms that have continued to farm for over 100 years. _____ yes _____no

Volunteer opportunity:

The Orange County Agricultural Preservation Board (APB) is made up of volunteers, who are interested in the counties' agricultural concerns: protection, preservation, economic sustainability, and the future of farming and agricultural in Orange County.

If you are interested in being a potential member of the Agricultural Preservation Board, please indicate and signing below.

___ Yes, please inform me when a position on the APB is available.

___ No, thank you- not at this time.

Signature: _____

For questions or more information, please contact:

Orange County Department of Environment, Agriculture, Parks and Recreation
Soil and Water Conservation Division
P.O. Box 8181 (306 Revere Road)
Hillsborough, NC 27278 (919) 245-2750 (Office) (919) 644-3351 (fax)

For more detailed information about the Voluntary Farmland Program:

Please refer to the Orange County Voluntary Farmland Preservation Program Ordinance, which can be found in Chapter 48 of the Orange County Code of Ordinances, at the following link:

<http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=14983> or staff can provide a copy for you.