



Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District
225 Underwood Street, Suite 100
Zanesville, Ohio 43701-3784
Phone (740) 454-2027 Fax (740) 454-1451
www.muskingumswcd.org

Landowner Intent-to-Apply Form
for the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA)
2024 Clean Ohio Local Agricultural EASEMENT PURCHASE Program (LAEPP)
DEADLINE: Friday, February 23, 2024

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

A. Contact Name: _____

B. Mailing Address: _____
(address, city, state, zip code)

C. Email: _____

D. Phone: Day time: _____ Cell: _____

II. FARM INFORMATION

A. Farm Name (if applicable): _____

B. Farm Address: _____
(address, city, state, zip code)

C. County: _____ Township: _____

Minimum requirements to begin the process for eligibility to proceed.

1. Is the farm mortgaged or under land contract? **Yes / No**
Do you have written communication indicating the subordination expectation from the bank?
Yes (attached) / No (application will be rejected if not obtained by February 29, 2024)
2. Is the farm currently under an oil and gas lease? **Yes / No**
3. Is the farm enrolled in CAUV?
Yes (current tax card attached) / No (application will be rejected if not obtained by February 29, 2024)
4. Is the farm enrolled in an Ag District?
Yes (approved form attached) / No (application will be rejected if not obtained by February 29, 2024)
5. Provide a copy of the current deeds for the property. **This paperwork must be in place and filed no later than February 29, 2024.**
6. Provide a copy of the current articles of incorporation, trust documents, etc. that show how the ownership structure operates. **This paperwork must be in place and filed no later than February 29, 2024.**

E. List farm parcel numbers (all contiguous parcels under the same legal name) and acres:
 If unsure, visit <http://muskingumcountyauditor.org/> and/or contact the Muskingum County Auditor's CAUV Office at (740)455-7109.

	<u>Acreage:</u>	<u>CAUV (Yes/No)</u>	<u>Agricultural District (Yes/No)</u>
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
(Attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.)			
Total Acres:		_____	

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

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

H. List all mortgages, lines of credit and other liens or encumbrances against the farm:
 (Note: Your list of encumbrances may be incomplete without a title search.)

<u>Name of Bank/Mortgage Company:</u>	<u>Parcel(s) covered (use #s 1-4 above)</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

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

I. List all active oil & gas leases on the farm: (Note: Your list of encumbrances may be incomplete without a title search.)

<u>Name of Oil & Gas Company:</u>	<u>Acres Covered:</u>	<u>Parcels Covered (use #s 1-4 above)</u>
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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

J. List approximate acres for each land use in 2023:

Grain _____ Acres _____ Grain _____ Acres _____ Grain _____ Acres _____
Grain _____ Acres _____

Livestock: _____ Number _____ Livestock: _____ Number _____
Livestock: _____ Number _____

Woodlot/Forested Acres: _____ Does the farm have a forest management plan? Yes No

Pasture Acres: _____ Hay Acres: _____ CRP/Stream Buffer Acres: _____

Other _____ Acres: _____ Other _____ Acres: _____ Other _____ Acres: _____

III. LANDOWNER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

A. Muskingum County Soil & Water Conservation District (Muskingum SWCD) is the Muskingum County 2024 Certified Local Sponsor for the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA) 2024 Clean Ohio Local Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (LAEPP). All available ODA documents, including program requirements and draft easement deeds (subject to revisions), are available to me at:

<https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/programs/farmland-preservation-office/farmland-preservation-documents/farmland-preservation-laapp-2024>

B. 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 **2024 Policies and Guidelines for Landowner Application** requirements and my farm meets ODA's minimum requirements for the Program:

1. My farm is at least 40 acres (or 10-39 acres if contiguous 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 Thursday, February 29, 2024.
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 costs are associated with placing an agricultural easement on my land, and that neither ODA, NRCS nor Muskingum 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.

G. I have reviewed and understand the requirements of the ODA Program. Muskingum SWCD may submit an application to this Program on my behalf.

H. Muskingum SWCD 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. The minimum amount per acre I am willing to accept is: \$ _____. I understand that the minimum amount I have written here is not binding. Muskingum SWCD expects to me consider seriously the minimum amount I will accept if an offer is made to me.

J. I understand that the information provided by Muskingum SWCD in this form and Attachment is current as of February 23, 2024 and the all of the information, timelines and deadlines are subject to change.

Landowner Signature or Authorized Representative

Date

Printed Name

Date

Landowner Signature or Authorized Representative

Date

Printed Name

Date

Landowner Signature or Authorized Representative

Date

Printed Name

Date

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 Muskingum SWCD by 4:30 p.m., **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024.**

Mail or submit form to: Lisa Crock, Administrator, Muskingum SWCD
225 Underwood Street, Suite 100, Zanesville, Ohio 43701

For additional information or questions, please contact Melissa Devore at melissa.devore@muskingumswcd.org or 740-454-2027.

The SWCD and NRCS prohibit discrimination in any program activity or employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, retaliation, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status, or genetic information. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication (Braille, large print, etc.) or who need special accommodations for meetings should contact the SWCD office at (740) 454-2027.