

Purpose

It is the Purpose of the Harrison County Land Conservation Program to conserve agricultural land, forest land and open spaces in order to maintain a long-term business environment for agriculture and forestry in Harrison County, to protect the rural character of the County, and to maintain the quality of life of county residents.

Programs

Conservation Donation Program

(CD)

The CD program is designed to make it possible for anyone willing to make a commitment to permanently preserve their land. This voluntary program assists landowners interested in donating a conservation easement on their land find

interested land trusts and provides the funding for stewardship fees.

Property protected by a conservation easement remains in private ownership, can be kept in agricultural production or managed for timber, can be



sold to the highest bidder and continues to pay property taxes. Protected property however, can never be subdivided or developed for more than one home which insures the farm remains available for agriculture.

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (HCACEP)

The HCACEP is designed to conserve high quality farm land and improve the local economy by providing local and federal funds to purchase conservation easements from interested land owners.

Funding for this program is considered annually and participation requires working with a local land trust. Please call for additional details.

Administration

The County Land Conservation programs are administered by the Harrison County Conservation Committee (HCC) which is made up of Harrison County residents appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. This committee assists landowners, reviews all land conservation applications, conducts fund raising, works

with land trusts and promotes Land Conservation in the County.



Funding

As part of the program a non-reverting fund has been established in which all funds that become available are deposited. This fund is separate from the County General fund to insure all deposits are used strictly for the land conservation program. Deposits into the fund may come from any legitimate source including but not limited to

Governmental agencies, donations by individuals, corporate sponsorships or grants.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information, applications forms, a sample conservation easement, make a donation to the Conservation Fund, host a fund raising event for the program or schedule a presentation to a group please contact Eric Wise at 738-8927 or visit our website-

www.harrisonfarmland.org



Harrison County Land Conservation Program



Preserving our Rural Heritage

Harrison County
Conservation Committee