

**Name of program:** Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (AEPP)

**Type of program:** AEPP, a competitive program, provides grants to local governments and land trusts to purchase agricultural easements from willing landowners.

**Administering agency:** Ohio Department of Agriculture- Office of Farmland Preservation

**Purpose:** Preserve productive farmland for future generations

**Authority citation:** ORC Sections 901.21-23; Sections 5301.67; Section 5301.691  
OAC Sections 901-2-01 to 901-2-13  
Policy recommended by Ohio Farmland Preservation Advisory Board and approved by director of ODA

**Funding source:** Clean Ohio bonds

**Current funding level:** Bonds totaling \$25 million over a 5-6 year period. Current budget problems do not affect Clean Ohio Fund bonds. However, it has resulted in cutbacks on administrative needs.

**Local role:** Counties, townships and land trusts apply on behalf of farmers/landowners

**Outcomes/direct impact:** Since 2002, ODA, with \$21.7 million of Clean Ohio Funds and \$9.9 million of federal grant funds, has purchased agricultural easements on 117 farms in 23 counties, totaling 23,616 acres.

**Program contact:** Ohio Department of Agriculture- 614-728-6210