



ROCK COUNTY PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS (PACE) PROGRAM – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FACT SHEET

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Rock County PACE Program Ad Hoc Committee (Committee) developed Eligibility Criteria to identify agricultural parcels that are eligible to apply for inclusion to the Rock County PACE Program.

These Eligibility Criteria include:

1. Located in an Agricultural Preservation Area, per the *Rock County Farmland Preservation Plan: 2005 Update*, Farmland Preservation Plan Map
2. In private ownership but not owned by a conservation entity, and not currently protected through another agreement designed to maintain agricultural or open space use in perpetuity
3. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) composite land evaluation soil score of 60 or greater
4. 35 acres or larger with at least 50% of the acres classified as workland
5. Not adjacent to any an existing U.S. Interstate highway interchange (on 1-1-2010)
6. Not currently within any Town/Village/City planned development areas (per Town/City/Village comprehensive plans on 1-1-2010) or existing sewer service area (on 1-1-2010)*
7. Not currently within .75 miles of the boundary of a Large City (City with a population over 20,000, per most recent United States Census) or .50 miles of a Small City (City with population under 20,000, per most recent United States Census), as said boundaries exist on 1-1-2010* **

**Land parcels meeting Program Eligibility Criteria 1.- 5., but not criteria 6. and/or 7., will become eligible to apply for inclusion in the Program pending submission of a Statement of Support – Rock County PACE Program Eligibility, by the applicable Town, Village and/or City, and amendment of said Town, Village, and/or City comprehensive plan, if required.*

*** Land parcels meeting all other Program Eligibility Criteria., but not criteria 7., are eligible to apply for inclusion in the Program if said parcels are located in a Primary Target Acquisition Area (per Map IV.3 Rock County PACE Program: Target Acquisition Areas and Other High-Priority Agricultural Parcels),*

Land parcels meeting all other Program Eligibility Criteria, but not criteria 7., located in the Town of Rock, west of State Highway 11 and County Highway D (Afton Road), as identified in an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Rock and the City of Janesville, are eligible to apply for inclusion in the Program, pursuant to said Agreement.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agricultural parcels must meet all seven of the Eligibility Criteria to be eligible to apply for inclusion in the Program. Approximately 2,806 agricultural parcels in Rock County, totaling approximately 228,264 acres, meet all seven Program Eligibility Criteria and are eligible to apply for inclusion in the Program.

FURTHER INFORMATION

****PLEASE CONTACT ANDREW BAKER, ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT,
AT 608.755.6617 Ext. 3, BAKER@CO.ROCK.WI.US, OR:**

**ROCK COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
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