

Staff Use Only:

Project Name: _____ Date received: _____

Conservation Area: _____ Received by: _____



Farmland and Natural Areas Program 2012 Final Application

The Farmland and Natural Areas Program (FNAP) began in 2003 in response to citizen concern about the loss of farmland and natural areas throughout Dakota County. The intent of the program is to work with willing landowners to consider their land protection options.

The overall goals of the program are to:

- Protect and Improve Water Quality
- Protect Quality Natural Areas
- Protect Quality Farmland
- Protect and Improve Wildlife Habitat

County landowners are encouraged to consider participating in this voluntary program.

Step 1: Landowners should review the FNAP Guidelines by visiting the Dakota County website at [http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/County Government/Project & Special Initiatives/Farmland and Natural Areas Program/Program Guidelines](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/County%20Government/Project%20&%20Special%20Initiatives/Farmland%20and%20Natural%20Areas%20Program/Program%20Guidelines). If you have questions about the FNAP, or are interested in receiving printed materials, contact Lisa West, in the Dakota County Parks and Open Space Department at (952) 891-7018.

Step 2: Complete this 2012 Final Application. The information you provide will be used by County staff and the Farmland and Natural Areas Program Advisory Committee to evaluate and score your project according to established prioritization criteria. The prioritization criteria are included in the FNAP Program Guidelines (Chapter 2). Projects, with their respective scores, will be submitted to the Physical Development Committee (PDC) of the Dakota County Board of Commissioners for its review. PDC recommendations will then be forwarded to the County Board for formal approval.

The deadline for submission of this application is November 15, 2011.

Applications should be submitted to:	Dakota County PDD – 3rd Floor Attn: Lisa West 14955 Galaxie Avenue Apple Valley, MN 55124
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Submission of this application does not bind the applicant to proceeding with a donation or sale of land or an easement. Likewise, the submission of this application does not bind Dakota County to accept or purchase land or an easement.

Public Information: Information contained in this application is subject to the provisions of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13. Unless otherwise classified, all data contained in this application is considered public data.

Note: Please expand this form and/or use extra sheets of paper if all the requested information does not fit in the space provided.

Please answer ALL of the questions on this application. Failure to do so will delay the processing of your application and may exclude it from consideration.

Please Check: Farmland Protection Project _____ Natural Area Protection Project _____
Combination Protection Project _____

I. Landowner Information

FULL name (First, Middle & Last): _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone numbers: Day _____ Evening _____ Cell _____

Email address: _____

Other Landowner(s) Information – please include information for ALL landowners and/or your spouse, even if your spouse is not named on the property deed.

FULL name(s) (First, Middle & Last), address(es), and phone number(s):

**II. Contact Information Who will be the contact person regarding this application?
Please complete if the contact person is different from the landowner.**

FULL name (First, Middle & Last): _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone numbers: Day _____ Evening _____ Cell _____

Email address: _____

III. Overall Project Description

Please attach a drawing/map of all parcels and portions of parcels proposed for consideration for this application. The drawing/map should include:

- Perimeter boundaries
- Labeled roads
- Existing or planned pipelines or other utilities
- Other easements (e.g., driveways, access for adjacent or other landowners)
- Significant property features
- Areas to be excluded from the acquisition/easement, such as existing buildings and facilities, homesteads, future building sites, etc.

This project description should be drawn on a copy of an aerial photo, plat map, or maps available from the Dakota County website at: http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/assessor/real_estate_inquiry.htm

IV. Project Size

Please list the Property Identification Numbers (PINs) for each parcel and the approximate acreage of each parcel. [PINs are listed on yearly tax statements, or can be obtained at the Dakota County website at: http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/assessor/real_estate_inquiry.htm , by calling the Dakota County Assessor's office at (651) 438-4200 or 1-800-247-1056 (non-metro), or via email to: assessing.services@co.dakota.mn.us]

Parcel	PIN Number	Acres	Parcel	PIN Number	Acres
1			8		
2			9		
3			10		
4			11		
5			12		
6			13		
7			14		
Total Acres			Total Acres		

V. Financial Considerations

A. Donation. If you plan to donate a portion of your potential easement value back to Dakota County, what percent? _____ (The estimated average value per acre for an easement is \$2,000. Use this figure to estimate what your total easement payment might be, and to determine whether you will consider donating a portion of that value back to the County. Donated value can provide a tax savings to you, and allows the County to stretch its dollars further to protect more acres of land. Talk to your financial planner, accountant, and/or attorney regarding the possible benefits.)

B. Building Rights. How many building rights remain on the proposed easement property, according to local zoning? _____ (You will be required to obtain written confirmation of your building rights from the township.)

Dakota County must purchase at least one building right (if available). You may retain some or all of the remaining building rights. How many building rights will you convey to the County? ____ How many building rights will you retain? ____ Will you cluster some or all of your building rights? ____ (You will be required to obtain written township confirmation allowing you to transfer or cluster your retained building rights.)

C. Other Project Funding. Please describe any known or potential funding partners and estimated funding, or other cost considerations.

VI. Financial Encumbrances

Are there existing mortgages or Contracts For Deed (CFD) on the proposed easement property? Yes ____ No ____ If yes, you will need to indicate prior to closing whether you intend to pay off the mortgage/CFD with all or a portion of your potential easement payment, or indicate that you intend to subordinate your existing mortgage(s)/CFD(s).

VII. Transactional Circumstances

Please describe transaction issues, such as multiple land ownership partners, non-resident landowner interests, known title concerns, power of attorney issues, estate issues, schedule and timing, etc., OR indicate that there are none.

VIII. Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife Features

Please describe the environmental significance of this property in terms of water, wildlife, soils or other considerations.

IX. Other Environment or Land Use Issues

A. Is there any garbage, debris, old farm equipment, etc. located on the proposed easement property?

Yes ____ No ____ If yes, please describe: _____

(An Environmental Site Assessment is conducted on each County Board-approved project property.)

B. Is your septic system in proper working order? Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know ____ Not Applicable ____

C. Are there unused wells on the proposed easement property? Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know ____

D. Are there any pipeline or other utility or access easements on the proposed easement property?

Yes ____ No ____ If yes, please list all existing easements and whether you know if they are confined or are blanket easements.

E. Have you or a past landowner of this property sold or allowed any government or other entity to reserve any property rights associated with this property (e.g., mineral or mining rights)? If yes, please list all sold or reserved rights and the purchasing entity.

X. Unique Qualities/Characteristics

Please describe unique or special characteristics of the land or significance of protecting the land.

XI. Public Access

Your private ownership is retained when the County acquires an easement. However, there may be opportunities to provide limited public access for fishing, hiking, hunting, snowmobiling, etc. Would you consider providing limited public access on the property? Yes ____ No ____ Maybe ____ If yes, please describe.

XII. Township/City Involvement

Has this property been identified in any official township/city plans, or been the subject of land use, zoning, or plan review or approval? If yes, please describe.

******* FOR FARMLAND PROTECTION PROJECTS ONLY *******

A. Please provide crop history for the area proposed for inclusion in the easement:

Year	Crop	# of Acres	Est. Yield (bushels/acre)
2008			
2009			
2010			

B. Stewardship

Do you currently conduct or would you be willing to implement the following stewardship practices?

	Current			Future		
	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Yes	No	Not Applicable
Buffers/Waterways						
Erosion Control						
Fertilizer Management						
Integrated Pest Management						
Pasture Management						
Manure Management						
Drip Irrigation						
No or Reduced Till						
Natural Area Management (wetland, forest, grassland)						

Please describe these activities in more detail, especially future activities:

Is there any question on this final application for which you believe the information you provided is security data that should be protected pursuant to Minn. Stat. Sec. 13.37? Yes ____ No ____ If yes, which question(s) do you believe requests security data information?

By signing this form, each signatory indicates their approval of the submission of this application to Dakota County for funding consideration through the Farmland and Natural Areas Program.

Name

Date

Name

Date

See Following Page 

Please read and sign below.

Tennessen Notice Data Privacy Acknowledgment

In accordance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act; Minn. Stat. § 13.04 and § 13.591, Dakota County is required to inform you of your rights as they pertain to private or non-public information collected from you. **Unless otherwise classified, all data in this application will be considered public data.** "Private or non-public data" is information that is available to you, but not to the public.

NEED FOR INFORMATION: The information we collect or have collected from you or from other sources authorized by you is needed for evaluation of applications received by Dakota County for lands to be potentially included in the Dakota County Farmland and Natural Areas Program.

REFUSAL: You are not legally required to supply the requested data by Dakota County. You have the right to refuse to supply the information we request. However, without this information, we may be unable to properly evaluate your application and may not be able to accept your land for inclusion in the County program.

ACCESS TO DATA: Public data may be shared or inspected on demand. Private or non-public information we collect from you may be shared, as a matter of program or service necessity, with the Citizen Advisory Committee or other consultants hired by Dakota County to evaluate and score applications.

You, as the subject of collected data, unless otherwise specified by law or court order, may view the information we have concerning you and may make written comments as to the accuracy of the information. Copies of information we have concerning your application may be made, for a reasonable fee, upon your request.

RETENTION: All information on you will be kept until federal, state and/or county retention requirements have been met, at which time the information will be destroyed. Unless otherwise noted, this consent will only be effective for a period of three (3) years from the date of signature.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 13.04, I HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF AND UNDERSTAND MY RIGHTS AS SUBJECT OF DATA.

Name

Date

Name

Date