Harnett County

Voluntary Agricultural District

Membership Application

For Office Use Only
Application #:_____
Date Received: _____
PUV Verification:____Y ____N By:_____
Conservation Qualification:____Y____N
Board Approval Date: _____
Payment Received: _____
Total Acres Enrolled: _____
Notification Sent: _____
Sign Received: _____
GIS Layer Confirmation: _____

Instructions

- Before completing this application please review the provisions of the Harnett County Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinance. Submitted applications should be filled out completely and accurately, including landowner(s) signature and notary. Notary service is available at the Harnett Soil and Water Conservation District Office.
- Completed applications should be returned to the Harnett Soil and Water Conservation District Office located at 126 Alexander Drive, Suite 200 in Lillington or mailed to PO Box 267 Lillington, NC 27546.
- An application fee of $40.00 is required for each application. Checks should be made payable to the Harnett County VAD. One sign is included. Additional signs are $60.

Applicant(s) Information

Name(s):_____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: (Hm) _____ (Cell) _____

Email: _____

Properties to Request Enrollment

1) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

2) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

If additional space is needed please use the Supplemental Tract Form

~OVER~

3) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

4) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

5) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

Owner(s) Certification and Conservation Agreement

I (We), the applicant(s), hereby certify that to the best of my (our) ability, this application is complete and accurate. If certified by the Agricultural Advisory Board, I (we) agree to sustain, promote, and encourage agriculture in the District. I (we) agree to prohibit non-farm use of the land under this program for a period of ten (10) years from the date certified by the Agricultural Advisory Board and maintain additional qualifications in accordance with Article VII of the Harnett County Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinance. This agreement will automatically renew for an additional 10 years, unless either the Advisory Board or the landowner give written notice of termination. This agreement may be revoked by the landowner by written notice to the Board or the Board may revoke such agreement based on non-compliance by the landowner as outlined in Article IX of the Harnett County Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinance.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Notary

HARNETT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

I _____, a Notary Public for _____ County,

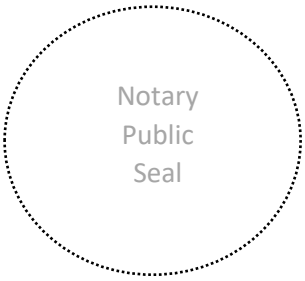
North Carolina, do hereby certify that _____ _____

Personally came before me this day and acknowledged the execution of this foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official seal, this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Signature: _____

My commission expires: _____



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Conservation Certification

All foregoing tracts are managed in accordance with Natural Resource Conservation Service guidelines for implementing best management practices (BMP's) as a part of a sound conservation management system as required by Article VII of the Harnett County Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinance.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Harnett Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Advisory Board Certification

This application was reviewed and **APPROVED** for enrollment into the Harnett County Voluntary Agricultural District.

Signature: _____ Date:_____

Board Member

This application was reviewed and **NOT APPROVED** for enrollment into the Harnett County Voluntary Agricultural District.

Signature: _____ Date:_____

Board Member

NOTES:

_____

_____

Voluntary Agricultural District Benefits

For Farmers

- *Recognition and public education about agriculture.*
  Members of the program will be provided a sign to post, identifying their farm as a members of a preservation district, indicating to any potential neighbors and passersby that their land is committed to the preservation of the agriculture way of life.
- *Increased protection from nuisance suits.*
  Notice on the property signaling Agricultural District membership and a notice in the Harnett County computerized land record system making those within one (1) mile of an Agricultural District farm aware of the potential for noise, odor, dust, or slow moving farm vehicles associate with farming.
- *Public hearing required for proposed condemnation.*
  Public hearings are held by the Agricultural Advisory Board if a farm in an Agricultural District is considered for a public project that may result in the land being condemned.
- *Eligibility for funding.*
  District members may be eligible for farmland preservation funds as local, state, and federal funds become available for further preservation projects.
- *Official role in county government.*
  The Agricultural Advisory Board acts as advisor to the governing board of the county or city on projects, programs, or issues affecting the agricultural economy or way of life within the county.

For the Public

- *Preserving NC and Harnett County's number one industry.*
  NC agriculture is an over $68 billion business annually with greater than $236 million being generated by Harnett County farmers. The success of the VAD program will foster the growth, development, and sustainability of family farms as well as increase public awareness of agriculture in NC and Harnett County.
- *County wide economic benefit.*
  An American Farmland Trust study showed that for every dollar in taxes received from working land, only 34 cents in services is paid by the government. However, services paid to residential development are an average of $1.15 per dollar of taxes received. Therefore, it is a net gain of revenue for the tax base and thus an economic benefit for the county to preserve working lands.
- *Quality of life.*
  When farms are kept in agriculture, it maintains the quality of life that many Harnett County families enjoy each day. Field and woodlands are both a visual pleasure and contribute to the clean air and water. Rural working landscapes are an integral part of our heritage and must be preserved for future generations and to attract new families and industries to Harnett County.
- *Ability to buy locally grown products.*
  Maintaining the agriculture industry in Harnett County allows consumers to purchase and consume products from local agricultural producers and have a sound knowledge of where and how their food is produced.

Farm Summary

Information gathered from VAD application farm summaries may be used to highlight Harnett County agriculture in marketing materials and to promote continued enrollment in the VAD program. Specific farm locations will not be included unless the farm is open for agritourism or has an on farm market.

____Crop _____Livestock _____Poultry _____Horses _____Forestry _____Other

What generation are you on the farm? _____

Please provide a brief summary of your farm:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Why is farmland preservation important to you?

_____

_____

_____

Please list any awards/recognition that your farm or your family has received related to agriculture.

_____

_____

_____

Harnett County

Voluntary Agricultural District

Supplemental Tract Form

Instructions

- Use this form to include additional tracts of land for consideration with your Harnett County Voluntary Agricultural District Application.

Applicant(s) Information

Name(s):_____

Date: _____

Properties to Request Enrollment

6) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

7) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

8) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

9) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

10) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

11) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

12) Tax Parcel ID # _____Number of Acres _____ Approved for Present Use Value Taxation _____Yes _____No

Physical Address_____

***If additional space is needed please use another Supplemental Tract Form**