

Washington County PDR Program Application Process

1. Landowner contacts the Agricultural Stewardship Association (ASA) for information on the program and a pre-application form. Please submit soil information and maps with the application. Typically the pre-application deadline is June 1 of each year.
2. The pre-application is reviewed and ranked by a selection committee made up of three members from the Washington County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board and three members from ASA. Usually this includes a visit to the farm. The top two to four applications are selected for a full application to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.
3. Prepare and submit grant applications to Department of Agriculture and Markets for top two to four candidates. Typically the deadline for PDR grant applications to the state is in September or early October.
4. Once the application is submitted, the Department of Agriculture and Markets reviews the applications, visits the farms and ranks them according to criteria set by the department.
5. The top ranking farms are awarded funding. Typically announcements are made in January or February of the following year. Contracts are developed and sent to the county so that title searches, appraisals, and easement negotiations can begin.
6. After meeting with the landowner to discuss the terms of the easement, ASA drafts an easement using the Department's standard easement form and includes it with a purchase contract for review by the landowner's attorney.
7. When all of the closing documents are in place, a closing takes place and the easement is recorded.

For More Information

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Washington County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board Washington County Board of Supervisors 383 Broadway, Fort Edward, NY 12828 Merrilyn Pulver, Chair	746-2219
New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets 10B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12230 David Behm, Program Manager	427-2713