



# SADC Partner Update



NEW JERSEY  
State Agriculture Development Committee

June 2018

## SADC

### Acquisition

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## Rural Microenterprise Rules Adopted

Rules that permit a farmer who owns a qualifying preserved farm to apply for a special permit to conduct a rural microenterprise on the farm, became effective on publication in the *New Jersey Register* on June 4. A Rural Microenterprise is a small-scale business opportunity or activity that is fully compatible with agricultural use and production on the premises.



The rules apply only to farms preserved prior to January 12, 2006 without an exception area. A guidance document will be available shortly at [www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/) Questions? Contact Chuck Roohr from our Agriculture Development & Stewardship Team at [Charles.Roohr@ag.nj.gov](mailto:Charles.Roohr@ag.nj.gov).

## Winery Special Occasion Events Pilot Update

Governor Murphy on May 30 signed into law A2787, which extends for another two years the pilot program for winery special occasion events on preserved farmland. The SADC is sending notices to the 19 wineries associated with preserved farmland, as well as new registration/certification forms to be completed by those wineries that participate in the pilot program.

## 6 Applications Received for FY2019 Nonprofit Round

The SADC has granted preliminary approval to six applications submitted by four nonprofits under the FY2019 Nonprofit Grant Round at the May 24, 2018 meeting. The applications would result in the preservation of approximately 185 acres in five counties – Salem, Mercer, Monmouth, Somerset and Warren – at a total estimated SADC grant cost of \$1.59 million.

## County and Municipal PIG Plans Approved

The SADC has granted final approval to 16 county farmland preservation plans and 44 municipal plans and funding requests under the FY2019 Planning Incentive Grant Program. In total the farmland preservation plans target the preservation of approximately 276,000 acres of farmland across the state.



## Code of Ethics Reminder!!

The County and Municipal Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) rules at N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9(4)i and 2:76-17 A.3(l)iii prohibit CADB and municipal agricultural advisory committee members - as well as their immediate family members – from selling or applying to sell development easements on their property or from selling or applying to sell their property in fee simple pursuant to the Agriculture Retention and Development Act, N.J.S.A. 4:1 C-11 et seq., and the Garden State Preservation Trust Act, N.J.S.A. 13:8C-1 et seq. The regulations define a member of the immediate family as "the member's spouse, child, parent, or sibling, residing in the same household."

Please remember your code of ethics should address how long a member must be off the board before he or she can apply to participate in the program.

If you have not done so already, please submit a copy of your code of ethics to SADC's Legal Specialist Alison Reynolds at [Alison.Reynolds@ag.nj.gov](mailto:Alison.Reynolds@ag.nj.gov) or feel free to contact her if you have any questions. She can also be reached through our main office phone number 609-984-2504.

## Ancillary Cost Reimbursement Policy Approved

SADC Acquisition staff would like to better coordinate with municipal and nonprofit partners who intend to seek 50% reimbursement for eligible ancillary costs in order to process these payments at closing. We have found that waiting to send in paid invoices for surveys, appraisal, title, etc., often leads to misplaced documents and provides difficulties for SADC fiscal staff.

The SADC has approved a policy for payment of cost-share grants for eligible expenses associated with municipal and nonprofit preservation applications in order to facilitate better and faster coordination. Catherine Corbett and Jess Uttal will be including reminders to municipal and nonprofit partners to submit this documentation as invoices are paid throughout the acquisition process.

The policy is intended to make the reimbursement process more efficient. The final policy will be distributed via email and posted to the SADC website shortly.

*Thank You for your time and dedication to farmland preservation in NJ. If you have specific questions, please don't hesitate to contact SADC staff. As always, our website is available and full of helpful information at [www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/).*

