How They Work

The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) provides grants to nonprofit organizations to fund up to 50 percent of the fee simple or development easement values on farms to ensure their permanent preservation.

Application

Nonprofit organizations should apply to the SADC. Notice of available funds will be published in the *New Jersey Register*.

Applications must be submitted within 90 days of that notice. Nonprofit groups also must publish a notice that an application has been filed and notify the municipality and county agriculture development board.

Criteria

The SADC reviews and ranks applications based on the following criteria: percentage of high-quality soils; percentage of tillable acres; suitable boundaries and buffers, such as other nearby preserved farms and open space; the local commitment to agriculture (e.g., right to farm ordinances, community financial support); size of the farm; agricultural density of the area, and imminence of development.

Valuation

The SADC certifies a development easement or fee simple value based on independent appraisals conducted by two licensed appraisers.

Like all other land in the Farmland Preservation Program, farmland preserved by nonprofit organizations must be maintained for agricultural use.

For More Information

Contact the State Agriculture Development Committee at:
(609) 984-2504.