

Wayne County Ag Development

"Planning today, building tomorrow for agribusiness"

Mission- Helping Wayne County farmers and agribusinesses position themselves in today's world economy as profitable, rewarding enterprises, with an emphasis on strategic and programmatic, municipal and institutional change.

A Objectives-

- 1 Develop programs which improve the climate for Agricultural Economic Development-**
- 2 Support efforts which include and foster agricultural land in Municipal Land Use planning documents and laws-**
- 3 Support efforts to utilize Farmland Preservation programs as farmers and municipalities express interest -**
- 4 Foster interest in and support efforts by farmers to develop new products or marketing channels-**
- 5 Develop programs which support New Farmers and agribusinesses and improve the viability of the new businesses-**
- 6 Support Regional and Statewide efforts to increase the effectiveness of the ag economic development profession-**
- 7 Improve AED skills through Professional Development programs.**

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1 Develop programs which improve the climate for Agricultural Economic Development-

- a Build partners in the established Economic Development arena that will allow farmers to benefit from traditional Economic Development tools.
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Continue to strengthen working relationship between County, IDA, CCE, Farm Credit and NY FarmNet in micro program*
 - *Develop relationship with Ag lenders to partner with the program*
- b Develop micro-loan and business planning program
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Meet GOSC program goals for loans, business planning job retention*
 - *Submit reports as needed*
 - *Broaden the pool of qualified applicants to include non-ag businesses in order to fully utilize the loan funds.*
 - *Expand the scope of business planning audiences by offering seminars to landscape businesses and for those considering a farm transfer.*
 - *Support loan applicants and review committee*
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Meet as needed with applicants and committee*
- c Develop tracking program for available land for rent or purchase
 - **Goals for 2004-** none

2 Support efforts which include and foster agricultural land in Municipal Land Use planning documents and laws-

- a Represent the County Planning Director on the Ag Development Board
- b Educate municipal boards as to viable land use planning techniques which foster viable farms
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Meet with 2 Town Boards regarding land use issues*
- c Educate municipal boards as to reasonable zoning laws which foster agribusiness
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Incorporate into presentations the issue of farms as part of a working landscape and point out that an agribusiness offers greater scenic buffer than most businesses*
 - *b) Work with Macedon, Walworth and Ontario to implement a proposal for a feasibility study for Cluster development enhancement to GTC UPWP if awarded .*
- d Support comprehensive planning efforts at the regional, county and local levels
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Meet with 2 Town master plan committees regarding ag economic development as it relates to zoning*
 - *Work to insure that ag issues are identified in new County Master Plan*
- e Assist in the Ag District review process as needed
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Assist with the map and writing of the report for Consolidated Ag District 1.*
 - *Assist with the reports for the Annual window of opportunity to be included in an existing Agricultural District.*
 - *Assist with the survey and reports for Consolidated Ag District 2.*

3 Support efforts to utilize Farmland Preservation programs as farmers and municipalities express interest -

- a Provide education to farmers and municipal Boards regarding positives and negatives of Conservation Easements and Purchase of Conservation Easements (PACE) programs
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Meet with 3 Town Boards regarding use and impact of PACE*
- b Provide grant writing services for PACE projects
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Write (2) State proposals and (1) Federal proposal*
- c Facilitate/implement funded grant proposals
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Either develop a defined process for document flow in the PDR closing process or:*
 - *Move the implementation of Farmland protection grants to the Town*

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- d Support ongoing stewardship/monitoring of PACE projects
 - **Goals for 2004- none**
- e Support owners efforts to transfer PACE land to the next generation of farmer.
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Work with two farms interested in identifying a new farmer-buyer as part of a purchase of development rights sale*
 - *Work with one farmer in developing plan for continued use of protected farmland*
- f Improve the ability of farmers to make informed decisions regarding farmland preservation.
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *House the on-line workbook/course on the Growing New Farmers website.*
- 4 Foster interest in and support efforts by farmers to develop new products or marketing channels-**
 - a Support Finger Lakes Culinary Bounty
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Represent Wayne County on FLCB board*
 - *Try to find a replacement for me on the FLCB board*
 - *Work on distribution study committee for NYSDAM grant award*
 - b Provide support for agri-businesses who are seeking to develop new markets or diversification of existing enterprises
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Work with Tourism and 12 farm markets to develop for a Wayne County farm markets map if the a Pride of NY marketing grant is awarded*
 - c Review and/or write grant proposals for new projects
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Review 2 farmer written grant proposals in an effort to improve their presentation*
 - d Help implement to the extent possible funded proposals
 - **Goals for 2004-no specific goals**
- 5 Develop programs which support New Farmers and agribusinesses and improve the viability of the new businesses.**
 - a Develop an educational and support network for new and beginning farm business owners.
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Attend the Growing New Farmers conference, identify a potential program for Wayne County*
 - b Develop New Farmer apprentice program
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *work with Steve Richards(possibly) NY FarmNet to develop a working model for apprentice program*
 - *Identify Dairy and/or other farm organizations which might assist in underwriting program*
 - *Develop a pilot program*
- 6 Support Regional and Statewide efforts to increase the effectiveness of the ag economic development (AED) profession-**
 - a Support efforts by Cornell University to educate those in the AED profession
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Serve on the Agricultural Community Economic Development Program Work Team (PWT)*
 - b Support efforts by New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets concerning AED
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - c Participate with the Lake Plains Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) committees
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Attend 2 meetings*
 - d Be a resource for new AED appointees in the State
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Contact the new Ontario County AED specialist*
- 7 Improve AED skills through Professional Development programs-**
 - a Attend 4 seminars or continuing ed programs.
- 8 Increase outreach**
 - a Develop a series of articles which detail the advantages of farmland and open space preservation.
 - b Develop a better working relationship with GLT
 - **Goals for 2004-**
 - *Understand GLT's organizational strengths and interests*
 - *Identify areas where we can work together to further open space preservation in Wayne County*
 - c Continue development of AED site to be housed on the County website

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- Areas of interest
 - Ag micro program
 - New Farmer Support
 - Open Space