

Recent Examples of Municipal Farmland Protection Efforts

Town (year)	Mechanism	Purpose*	Fund/Site Specific	Town Expenditure**
Ashford (2007)	Open Space Fund (fee-in-lieu)	Conservation easement on 141 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag, land trust and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$120,607
Ellington (2007)	Bond Referendum	Conservation easements for farmland	Dedicated Fund	\$2 million
Glastonbury (2007)	Bond Referendum	Conservation easements and land acquisition	Dedicated Fund	\$4 million
Lebanon (2007)	Open Space Fund	Open space and farmland protection	Dedicated Fund	\$100,000 annually from budget
Pomfret (2007)	Open Space Fund	Conservation easement on 100 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$125,000
Southbury (2007)	Budget Allocation	Conservation easement on 43 acres (partners with land trust and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$240,000
Southbury (2007)	Budget Allocation	Conservation easement on 46 acres (partners with land trust and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$205,000
Suffield (2007)	Open Space Fund (fee-in-lieu and annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 91 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$240,000
Suffield (2007)	Open Space Fund (fee-in-lieu and annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 88 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$173,451
Glastonbury (2006)	Budget Allocation	Conservation easement on 26 acres (partners with land trust)	Specific Project	\$675,000
Mansfield (2006)	Bond Referendum	Purchase or conservation of open space, farmland, and recreational lands	Dedicated Fund	\$1 million
Shelton (2006)	Open Space Trust Account	Protect open space and farmland	Dedicated Fund	\$250,000 annually from budget
Shelton (2006)	Bond Referendum	Conservation easement on 140 acres (partners with USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$4.3 million (\$900,000 reimbursement from FPP)
Suffield (2006)	Open Space Fund (fee-in-lieu and annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 88 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$171,250
Tolland (2006)	Bond Referendum	Purchase or conservation of open space, farmland and recreational lands	Dedicated Fund	\$2 million
Wethersfield (2006)	Bond Referendum	Bond referendum for open space, recreational land and farmland protection	Dedicated Fund	\$4 million
Woodstock (2006)	Open Space Fund (annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 109 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$163,500
Newington (2005)	Budget allocation (over three years)	Conservation easement on 61 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and land trust)	Specific Project	\$2.7 million (up to \$1 million to be reimbursed by FPP)
Simsbury (2005)	Open Space Fund	Conservation easement on 164 acres (partners with land trust and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$100,000
Southbury (2005)	Budget Allocation	Conservation easement on 36 acres (partners with land trust and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$250,000

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Suffield (2005)	Open Space Fund (fee-in-lieu and annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 109 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$207,500
Suffield (2005)	Open Space Fund (fee-in-lieu and annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 43 acres (partners with USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$215,730
Tolland (2005)	Open Space Fund (bond referendum)	Conservation easement on 155 acres (partners with USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$365,000
Woodstock (2005)	Open Space Fund (annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 90 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag, land trust and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$164,000
Glastonbury (2004)	Bond Referendum	Conservation easements and land acquisition	Dedicated Fund	\$4 million
Southbury (2004)	Budget Allocation	Conservation easement on 96 acres (partners with two land trusts and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$250,000
Suffield (2004)	Open Space Fund (fee-in-lieu and annual budget funding)	Conservation easement on 67 acres (partners with CT Dept of Ag and USDA - FPP)	Specific Project	\$148,500

* In many cases landowners may have donated a portion of the easement value; this important donation is not included with other partners. Land trusts may have raised money locally for projects; these essential contributions are also not captured here.

** "Town Expenditure" may not include all associated costs with land acquisition or conservation easements such as appraisals, surveys, title searches, professional and attorney fees, and staff costs.



¹⁹ American Farmland Trust-Farmland Information Center, Fact Sheet: Transfer of Development Rights, 2008, available online at: http://www.farmlandinfo.org/documents/37001/TDR_04-2008.pdf

²⁰ Information provided by Jeff Lacy and Shutesbury, Massachusetts planning board.

²¹ Jeff Lacy. Understanding Open Space Design, available online at: http://www.shutesbury.org/planning_board/

²² NASS, Census of Agriculture, 2002.

²³ American Farmland Trust-Farmland Information Center, Fact Sheet: Cost of Community Services Studies, 2007, available online at: http://www.farmlandinfo.org/documents/27757/COCS_09-2007.pdf

²⁴ For more information see American Farmland Trust, Conservation Options for Connecticut Farmland: A Guide for Landowners, Land Trusts & Municipalities, 2006, available online at: http://www.workinglandsalliance.org/OtherDocs/AFT_ConservationOptionsforConnecticutFarmland06.pdf

²⁵ Effective July 2008, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture is charged with developing new regulations for farms that do not meet the criteria of the existing Farmland Preservation Program. The new Community Farms Program would, if funded, protect smaller farm parcels in the future.

²⁶ The Trust for Public Land, LandVote, available online at: http://www.tpl.org/tier2_kad.cfm?folder_id=2386

²⁷ Johnston and Duke.