What does the N.C. ADFP Trust Fund do?

- Assist in the preservation of N.C.’s agricultural economy by providing grants to county governments and non-profit organizations for conservation easements, agricultural plans and development projects.
- Encourages the preservation of qualifying agricultural, horticultural and forestlands to foster the growth, development and sustainability of family farms.
- Prioritize grant funding for maximum match resource utilization from private, local and federal constituent partners.

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has preserved 18,498 acres of farm and forest lands.

- The ADFP Trust Fund will preserve another 2,653 acres by the end of 2019 based on current contract schedules.
- To date, ADFP Trust Fund grant recipients have secured over $50 million in matching funds.
- ADFP Trust Fund grant recipients anticipate over $5 million in matching funds by the end of 2019.

For more information
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Phone: 919-707-3071
The NCDA&CS Farmland Preservation Division works with counties to enact Farmland Protection Plans and the Voluntary Agricultural Districts program.

**Farmland Protection Plans:**
- Describe existing agricultural activity in a county.
- List challenges to continued family farming in a county.
- List opportunities for enhancing family farms in the local agricultural economy.
- Describe county plans to maintain a viable agricultural community.
- Create a schedule for implementing the plan and identification of possible funding sources for long-term support of the plan.

Currently, **60 counties** have county-endorsed and NCDA&CS approved Farmland Protection Plans.

**Voluntary Agricultural Districts:**
- Encourage the preservation and protection of farmland.
- Allow landowners to publicly recognize their farms.
- Establish an Agricultural Advisory Board in the county.
- May protect farms from nuisance suits, allow for waivers of water and sewer assessments and public hearings for proposed condemnation.
- Allow Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural Districts to protect farms from development for 10 years.

Currently, **89 counties** in North Carolina have county ordinances for Voluntary Agricultural Districts. **10,183 farms** are enrolled in the program, protecting **833,354 acres** of farms and forests.