

Sussex County Land Trust

- Programs to purchase property and protective easements
- Parcel donations accepted
- Aims to create “Grand Preservation Loop” to provide connectivity to other preserved parcels, open tracts
- Partnership through Sussex County Council and the Sussex County Land Trust provides funding from both private and public contributions for preservation, protection of open space

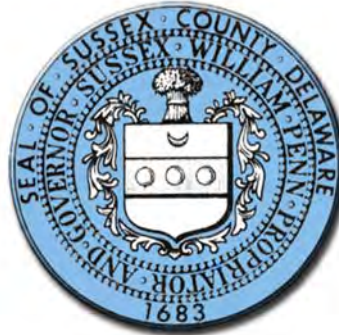
(302) 227-0287
www.sclandtrust.org

Delaware Wild Lands, Inc.

- Dedicated conservation and preservation of natural, strategic parcels; fee-simple and donated acquisitions
- Tracts concentrated near Great Cypress Swamp are most desirable. Currently, lands comprise 10,000 acres of sustainable forest under routine stewardship
- Timber management supports commercial logging and enhances traditional recreational activities
- Works through private, government partnerships

(302) 378-2736
www.delawarewildlands.org

Sussex County Council is proud to offer this guide to landowners who wish to preserve their farmland, woodlands and wetlands (or other qualifying tracts) for generations to come.



This pamphlet contains a sampling of federal, state, local and private cost-share, easement and preservation programs that are available to landowners in Sussex County.

SUSSEX COUNTY LAND PRESERVATION GUIDE

*Preserving
Sussex
For Everyone*



20%

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Farm and Ranch Lands Protection

Program - Purchase of agricultural conservation easements. Lands must be threatened and hold agricultural significance

Wetlands Reserve Program - Controls wetland losses nationwide through permanent and 30-year easements; 10-year minimum restoration cost-shares available

(302) 856-3990 ext. 3
(302) 678-4182

www.de.nrcs.usda.gov/programs

US Fish & Wildlife Service *(Partners for Fish and Wildlife)*

- Encourages voluntary habitat restoration on private lands to benefit Federal Trust Species
- Wetlands and estuary habitat management for minimum 10 years
- Includes financial and technical assistance to landowners

(410) 573-4500 or 573-4543
www.fws.gov/par

US Forest Service **Forest Legacy Program**

- Assists states in securing conservation easements for threatened lands
- Minimum 75% forest cover required
- Land is protected as working forest

(302) 698-4500
www.fs.usda.gov

Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation *(Delaware Department of Agriculture)*

Preservation Districts - Agricultural easements include farmlands, historic structures and wildlife habitats

- Exemptions from real estate transfer fees, county and school taxes
- Protection from nuisance complaints
- Partnership with Sussex County Council provides funding support for program

(302) 698-4530

www.dda.delaware.gov/aglands

Delaware Forest Land Preservation Program *(Delaware Forest Service)*

- Perpetual conservation easements prohibit development but protect working forests
- Minimum 10 acres and 10-year contract required
- Right-to-farm provision and substantial compensation for preservation
- Cost-shares for tree planting and timber stand improvement

(302) 698-4500
1-800-282-8685

www.dda.delaware.gov/forestry

Sussex Conservation District

Agricultural Cost-Share -

Incentives for numerous programs, including cover crops, erosion control and animal waste

- Up to 75% payments and 15-year contracts on most practices

Tax Ditch Maintenance - 50% cost-share for maintenance and repair

(302) 856-3990 ext. 3
www.sussexconservation.org

The Nature Conservancy of Delaware

- Accepts donations of land and conservation easements in public-private partnerships
- Provides natural lands management services

(302) 684-5348
www.tnc.org/delaware

Ducks Unlimited

- Conservation easement programs
- Habitat restoration programs with cost share
- Program for land acquisitions and donated properties

(410) 224-6620
www.ducks.org