

# Protecting Agricultural Lands in the Finger Lakes II

*Tools and options  
for landowners and communities*



**December 8, 2008**

**1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Jordan Hall

NYS Ag Experiment Station

630 West North Street

Geneva, NY

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Sponsored by:  
Finger Lakes Sustainable Farming Center  
Cornell Cooperative Extensions of Ontario,  
Seneca and Yates County



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension

**Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County**

Yates County Office Building

417 Liberty Street

Penn Yan, New York 14527

## Protecting Agricultural Lands in the Finger Lakes

*Tools and options for landowners and communities*

*Monday, December 8, 2008, 1:00 pm – 4:00 p.m.*

*NYS Ag Experiment Station, Cornell University, Jordan Hall, Geneva*

## AGENDA

## PROGRAM BACKGROUND

### Conservation Easements Basics and Tax Incentives

*Andy Zepp*, Executive Director,  
Finger Lakes Land Trust

### Appraisal Procedures for Agricultural Conservation Easements

*Donald Fisher*, President  
Pomeroy Appraisal Services

### Reinvesting PDR Proceeds in the Sustainable Family Farm Business

*Steven Bulkley*, Ag Business Consultant  
Farm Credit of Western New York

### Agriculture Protection Planning Tools and Options for Municipalities

*David Haight*, NY Director  
American Farmland Trust

### Why you might be interested in attending this workshop...

- Learn about options available to help keep a farm in the family and protect agricultural lands.
- Learn about conservation easements and how they work.
- Learn about options available at the local level to strengthen and protect agriculture.

There are few places on earth as attractive, agriculturally productive and diverse as the glacially carved Finger Lakes region. The combination of productive soils and moderating climate along the lakes creates outstanding growing conditions.

Increasing demand for land by developers and individuals has led to high agricultural land values and pressure to sell, edging the Finger Lakes region closer to "suburbanization". For example, much of the land along the lakes is prime lake-view property and highly desirable for home building. Yet, land on the slopes surrounding the Finger Lakes is uniquely and ideally suited for grape production. Competition for the limited amount of land suitable for grape production and lake-view development represents a challenge to the long-term viability of the wine industry in the Finger Lakes.

This workshop will explore several options to protect and enhance agricultural lands on an individual and community scale. How can a farmer interested in keeping his land in agriculture but also needing a retirement income, find a solution that works for his family and perhaps the larger community? While there are no easy answers, this workshop will explore this and many more issues related to agricultural land protection in the Finger Lakes.

### Who Should Attend?

- Farmers
- Municipal officials (planning, zoning, and town boards)
- Ag and Farmland Boards

**Pre-Registration is Required.** Cost is \$10 per person payable to CCE Yates. Space is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. **Registration Deadline is Tuesday, December 2, 2008.** Please mail this registration form with payment to: CCE – Yates County, 517 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527. Call 315-536-5123 for more information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ How Many Attending? \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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