

Voluntary Agriculture Districts *in other places*

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Sanford, NC – February 16, 2011

Genuine Oxymora - *combining contradictory terms*

- sweet sorrow
- instant classic
- found missing
- definite maybe
- genuine imitation
- timeless moment
- advanced beginner



Preserving North Carolina's # 1 Industry

**North Carolina
agribusiness yields
over \$72 Billion
annually.**

Voluntary Agriculture Districts

VAD's ... a 1st step toward protecting working land in NC

NC General Statute 106-739



North Carolina VAD's:

- 6,380 farms
- 510,000 acres

November 2010

What is a Voluntary Ag District?

- ▣ *Minimum contiguous acreage (PUV)*
- ▣ *Conservation plan*
- ▣ *3 building lots allowed*
- ▣ *10 year agreement to protect land*

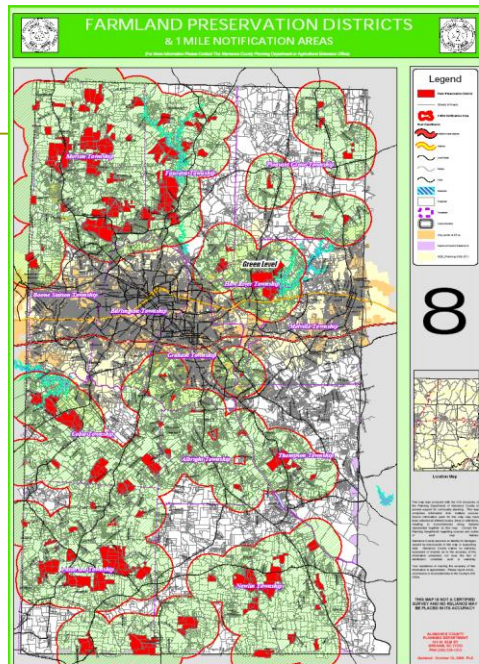
VAD Benefits

- *Public Board (voice in county)*
- *Public hearings for condemnation*
- *Public nuisance suit reduction*
- *Agriculture Vision & Annual Reporting*

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Alamance County Success Story - - -

- 1 = acknowledgement. County commissioners recognition farms & forestland?

GIS map is key.

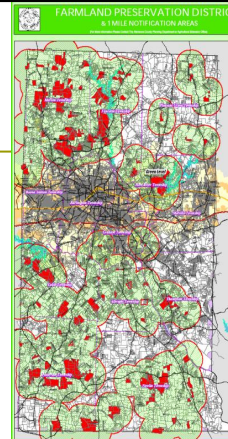
- 2 = back out option. Voluntary for county & farmer.
200 farms totaling 11,000 acres

- 3 = county planning. A plan for agriculture.

Cost of Community Services Study and County Agriculture Protection Plan, PUV roll back funds = \$50,000 county \$'s for farmland easements
Stopped nuisance ordinance against agriculture & forestry.

- 4 = dollars into the county. Do county commissioners and public recognize value of agriculture? (Public nuisance ordinance)

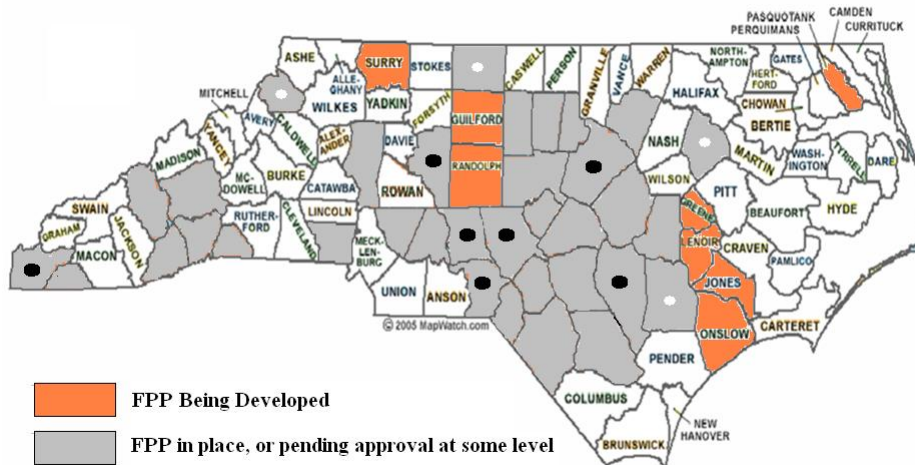
\$40 million in agricultural receipts in 2008



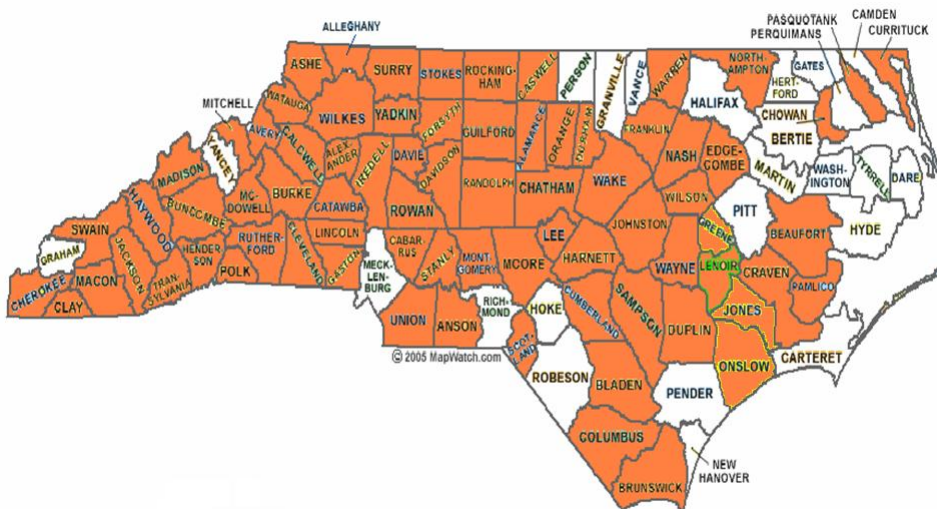
79 VAD Counties in 2010



FPPs (8) – Plan Being Developed - February 2011

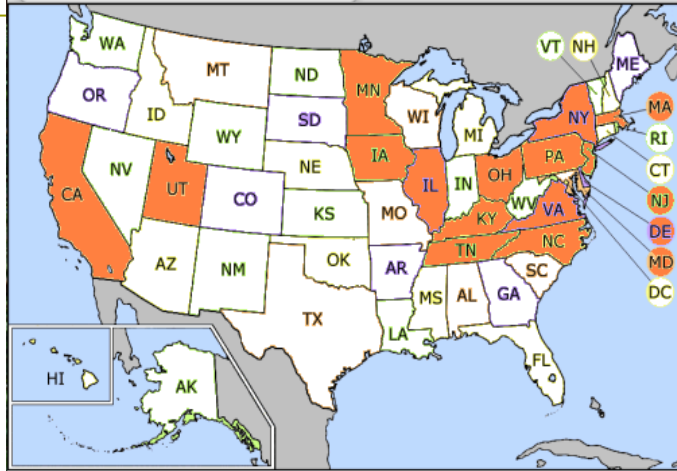


ADFP Grant Project 2010 to 2012



16 state Voluntary Ag District Programs

California
Delaware
Illinois
Iowa
Kentucky
Maryland
Massachusetts
Minnesota
New Jersey
New York
North Carolina
Ohio
Pennsylvania
Tennessee
Utah
Virginia



Landowner faces in a county with the right farmland tools!



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