Saving America’s Farms & Farmland
Celebrating 40 Years of Farmland Preservation

Hershey, Pa., May 12-13, 2014

"Before we came along, gentlemen, all this was nothing but farmland."
40 Years - 2.3 million acres

- California: 55,576 acres
- Colorado: 589,910
- Connecticut: 38,546
- Delaware: 107,754
- Kentucky: 31,792
- Maine: 8,671
- Maryland: 361,847
- Massachusetts: 69,035
- Michigan: 22,409
- Montana: 9,923
- New Hampshire: 13,590
- New Jersey: 201,146
- New Mexico: 5,930
- New York: 47,843
- North Carolina: 13,123
- Ohio: 50,107
- Pennsylvania: 470,155
- Rhode Island: 6,830
- Utah: 79,082
- Vermont: 142,920
- Virginia: 12,742
- Washington: 3,048
- West Virginia: 2,843
- Wisconsin: 5,124

Source: AFT
June 1974:
Suffolk County Local Law No. 19 Enacted
$21 million bond issue for PDR

John V.N. Klein (2004 photo)
County Executive, 1972-1979

Lee Koppelman (2004 photo)
Planning Director, 1960 - 1988

Source: Farmland Preservation Report

Talmage Family
Agreement Signing
1977
Talmage Farm, Riverhead, L.I., NY

The Talmage's (2005 photo)

Mr. John Talmage
Talmage Wholesale Greenhouses
Suffolk County ag today

• 10,500 acres preserved
• 34,404 acres of land in farms (2007 Ag Census)
• Value of products sold: $243 million
• 93% of value is crop sales
• 12,000 acres of vegetables and grapes
• 7,000 acres of sod and nursery operations

Farmland Preservation Roundtable

• Began 2007
• For established programs
• Exchange ideas for solving problems
• Improve program administration
National conference planning:

- National Institute of Food & Agriculture (NIFA) grant
- Rutgers Office of Continuing Professional Education
- Planning started July 2013
- Issues and topics vetted

- Allowed uses on preserved farms
- Farmland affordability
- Stewardship (monitoring)
- Return on investment – the bigger picture
- Measuring success
- Learning from the best programs
THANKS TO:

USDA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Thanks to the Farmland Preservation Roundtable
Conference Steering Committee