Return on Investment: How PDR is Strengthening Local Economies and Remaining Relevant Moving Forward

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May 12, 2014

The Economic Impacts of the Farmland Preservation

- Feds: More than $1.1 billion from FRPP
- States: More than $3.6 billion
- Local govts: ? More than $1.6 billion
- Land trusts: ?
- Tax benefits of donated + bargain sale easements
- Total: $6.3+ billion
Dick Esseks and Brian Schilling sampled 506 FRPP landowners for AFT, 2013

Other Findings

- 65% of landowners who had purchased protected land said the price was lower than comparable unprotected land.
- 37% said the easement helped them get a loan.
- 26% sold food directly to consumers vs. 6% of operators nationwide.
- 56 young and beginning farmers sold easements
Maintaining the Climate for Agriculture, Reducing Conflicts with Non-Farm Neighbors

Critical Mass, Large Contiguous Blocks, Growth Boundaries
Import Substitution

Agri-tainment and B&Bs

Jim & Mim Brubaker
Welcome You To
The Country Log House Farm!
Heritage Tourism: Grove Farm, Antietam Battlefield, MD
Direct Sales

- Farmer’s Markets
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)
- Farm-to-School Program
- Farm-to-restaurants, grocery stores, etc.
- Farm roadside stands
- U-pick
- Buy Fresh, Buy Local

The Future

- Preserved farmland is “offset ready,” could easily generate carbon offset credits (another stream of income)
- Creating permanent agricultural counties.
- Making a living on preserved farmland is key.
- Farmland affordability?
- Does the sale of an easement benefit only that one generation?