

Lancaster Farmland Trust Invites Public Comment for Renewal of Accreditation

For immediate release: *August 2024*

Contact: *Mikaela Bender-Rice, mbenderrice@lancasterfarmlandtrust.org*

Lancaster Farmland Trust is pleased to announce that it is applying for renewal of its land trust accreditation. A public comment period is now open and we invite members of the public to share their input.

The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each applicant's policies and programs.

Lancaster Farmland Trust first received national accreditation in 2009 and currently is applying for accreditation renewal. "Our organization is based on public trust and accountability," said Jeff Swinehart, President and CEO of Lancaster Farmland Trust. "Accreditation lets our farmers and supporters know that we take seriously the trust they place in our organization to execute our mission of vigorously accelerating the protection and stewardship of farmland."

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how Lancaster Farmland Trust complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of standards, see the Land Trust Accreditation Commission's website at <http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-resources/indicator-practices>.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org, or email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments also may be mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission at Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments, 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

Comments on Lancaster Farmland Trust's application renewal will be most useful by September 16th, 2024.

###

About Lancaster Farmland Trust

Lancaster Farmland Trust was established in 1988 by local citizens concerned about the growing threat of development in Lancaster County. LFT works to vigorously accelerate the permanent protection and stewardship of farmland. With a vision of our farms, soil, water, and roots are protected for all.

Details at LancasterFarmlandTrust.org

