

Jefferson County Announces Annual Thirty Day Period for Landowners to Request Additions of Viable Agricultural Land to Existing Agricultural Districts

The Jefferson County Board of Legislators has set June 1st through June 30th of each year for the purpose of accepting requests to add predominantly viable agricultural land to an existing NYS Certified Agricultural District in the County.

Viable agricultural land means actively farmed land as well as land that is highly suitable for agricultural production. A parcel of land is “predominantly” viable if a minimum of 51% of the parcel is viable agricultural land.

The purpose of NYS Certified Agricultural Districts is to encourage the continued use of farmland for agricultural production. The Agricultural District Program is based on a combination of landowner incentives and protections, all of which are designed to forestall the conversion of farmland into non-agricultural uses.

Landowners may request to add land to an existing NYS Certified Agricultural District by downloading the form from the Jefferson County Department of Planning web page under Agriculture > Programs and Resources and select Annual Agricultural District Inclusion process, or you may call the Planning & Community Development Department, (315) 785-3144.

All requests must be submitted on the form provided by the Planning Department and must be received no later than June 30, 2026.