

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APPLICATIONS FOR FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM AVAILABLE

Applications for the Berrien County Purchase of Development Rights Program are now available for farm owners in Bainbridge, Chikaming, Lincoln, Royalton and Sodus Townships. Applications can be downloaded at the www.berriencounty.org. Community Development Department, under the Farmland- Purchase Development Rights Program.

The program allows willing farmland owners to apply for state funding to purchase the development rights for their property. The purpose of this program is to preserve farmland in Berrien County in order to enable commercial agriculture to continue to thrive as well as to protect the county's scenic beauty. The State funding requires a minimum 25% cash match which can be in the form of private donations, from the land owner, or from other local funding sources. The application deadline is September 25, 2020. Please note that the application process will be very competitive, due to the limited amount of state funding. For more information, please call Katie Montoya at 269-983-7111 x8257.

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