

KENTUCKY FARMERS AWARDED LARGEST FARM BILL GRANT IN THE COUNTRY

\$45.7 MILLION

for Central Kentucky Farmers and Landowners

Bluegrass Land Conservancy (BLC) was awarded access to \$45.7 million in Farm Bill money to be used exclusively for payments to Central Kentucky farmers and landowners. The award was the **largest sum received by any organization in the country, giving Kentucky the 7th largest award total of all 50 states.** BLC needs funding to rapidly expand their outreach and programs to get this money in the hands of farmers and landowners in Kentucky. These federal dollars will go directly to Kentucky landowners and not towards program execution. Based on a recent feasibility study, BLC needs \$20 million to execute our conservation programs at full capacity. Our Board is committed to privately raising \$16 million.

We request a one-time investment of

\$4 million

from the Kentucky General Assembly to allow BLC to execute quickly on this opportunity to bring \$45.7 million into Kentucky.



A one-time \$4 million investment will be met with \$16 million from BLC to leverage \$45.7 million in federal funds, plus an additional \$45.7 million in federal tax deductions, resulting in over \$90 million economic benefit for Kentucky landowners.

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in BLC
By Kentucky
General
Assembly

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\$45.7m
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By Federal
Gov't

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This type of public-private collaboration to bring federal dollars directly into the hands of Kentucky landowners will benefit local economies and change the lives of families across the Bluegrass. If executed quickly, we have the ability to receive additional funding for farmers.



With the support of the Kentucky General Assembly, BLC can quickly access the available \$45.7 million to purchase agriculture conservation easements, on a voluntary basis, from landowners in Oldham, Henry, Shelby, Jefferson, Spencer, Bullitt, Garrard, Franklin, Woodford, Anderson, Jessamine, Mercer, and Boyle Counties. These lands remain privately owned and the easements allow for future agricultural use and residences, while preserving and expanding habitat for wildlife and wild game. Once a landowner receives dollars through the program, there are no restrictions on the use of those funds.



BLUEGRASS
LAND CONSERVANCY

Bluegrass Land Conservancy (BLC) has operated as a successful 501c3 non-profit for over 28 years. The first accredited land trust in Kentucky, BLC has protected over 33,000 acres of farmland and natural lands through voluntary conservation easements to date, ranking us in the top 3 land trusts in the country for land conserved per year compared to staff size. We specialize in making efficient and effective use of funds to help landowners voluntarily conserve local lands for future generations of farmers, hunters, and outdoor enthusiasts—for the benefit of all.

AT-A-GLANCE

- **BLC awarded to \$45.7 million in Farm Bill money for KY farmers through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP)**
- **Largest sum awarded to any organization in the country**
- **Kentucky received the 7th largest award total of all 50 states**
- **\$4 million investment from KY General Assembly will leverage \$90 million in economic benefits to Kentucky landowners, \$45.7 million of which are federal tax deductions**
- **If executed quickly, BLC may be eligible for more through these federal programs**