

New York's Right To Farm Act (and many local ordinances) Protect Farm Practices Like:

- Operation of farm machinery, which creates noise and dust
- Operation of farm machinery in the early morning and late evening throughout the year
- Transportation of farm-related products with slow moving farm machinery on local roads
- Spraying of pesticides and application of fertilizers
- Spreading of manure
- Shooting of air cannons



How Can I Assist Farmers?

- Notify farmers in advance if you are planning to hold a special event outside. That way they can try to avoid unpleasant activities.
- Refrain from unwarranted complaints to local, state, or federal governments about generally accepted farm management practices.
- Refrain from any actions that would discourage farmers from conducting standard farming practices.
- Refrain from filing frivolous lawsuits aimed at curtailing farming practices on agriculturally zoned property.
- Always receive permission from farmers before entering their property for any purpose so as to avoid damaging crops and/or disrupting farming operations.
- Join New York Farm Bureau! Visit www.nyfb.org or call 1-800-342-4143.

New York Farm Bureau

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To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture

Sights, Sounds, Smells...



Living In A Farm Community

*Knowledge for farmers and
neighbors to happily coexist*

Having Farmers For Neighbors



Farmers produce food, fiber and fuel products needed to make the world flourish and grow. To make this happen, farmers sometimes must carefully

apply manure to fields as well as pesticides and fertilizers to crops. In addition, farmers work long hours to ensure their success. These farm practices—long hours, manure application and crop management—sometimes conflict with rural homeowners' perceptions of living in the country.

While farmers try to be good neighbors and lessen any unpleasant sights, sounds or smells, these are sometimes unavoidable. Under the Agricultural Districts Law, new homeowners are alerted to this fact so they can make informed decisions about living in a farming area.

What is the Agricultural Districts Law?

The Agricultural Districts Law was established to protect farmland and promote a farmer's opportunity to operate a successful business. Under the Agricultural Districts Law farmers are provided:

- Protection from unreasonably restrictive local "anti-farming" laws;
- Protection from nuisance lawsuits;
- Limitations on eminent domain, other public projects, or private citizen construction projects;
- Exemption of the land's non-agricultural value from local real property taxes through an agricultural assessment; and
- Neighbors who have been notified that some aspects of living in a farming area can be unpleasant.



Fresh, locally grown produce is one benefit of having thriving local farms in your community.

What is an Agricultural District?

Land that is included within an agricultural district has been recognized by the local and state governments as being viable farmland



and an important resource. Having land located within a county adopted, State certified, agricultural district is different from having land zoned for agricultural use under a municipality's zoning code. In order to be included in an agricultural district, land must be recommended for inclusion by the county farmland protection board, approved by the county legislature and certified by the Commissioner of Agriculture & Markets.

Where can I go if I have more questions?

For more information visit the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Agricultural Protection and Development Services, website at:

www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/agservices/agdistricts.html