

Differences between the Agricultural Districts & Agricultural Assessment Program

The Agricultural District Program is not the same as the Agricultural Assessment Program. Eligible agricultural land may receive an Agricultural Assessment whether or not it is in an Agricultural District.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT Program

Program Purpose: Offers Right-to-Farm protections for active farm operations

How often are properties enrolled: Every 8 years

Is there a direct tax reduction for participating: No

Which properties are eligible: Active farm operations

Who does landowners contact regarding the program: Orleans County Planning and Development Office (585-589-3198)

AGRICULTURAL ASSESSMENT Program

Program Purpose: Encourages continued agricultural production by reducing taxes for eligible landowners

How often are properties enrolled: Each Year

Is there a direct tax reduction for participating: Yes

Which properties are eligible: Contact your Town Assessor for acreage and income eligibility requirements

Who does landowners contact regarding the program: Town Assessor's Office

Public Water/Sewer and the Agricultural District Program

Please be advised that , if land is put into an Agricultural District, there may be restrictions on access by non-farm use Public water and sewer services. If a farmer were to put land into the Agricultural District and then want to sell off buildings lots within the 8 year program period, those building lots may not be able to connect to any public water and/or sewer services in the area during the time that the land is in the Agricultural District Program.

With that said, public water and sewer services would be available to farm uses within an Agricultural District.

To determine whether public water and sewer services have restrictions on prohibiting non-farming uses from accessing these services, please contact your Town or Village Public Works Department or Orleans County Public Works (585-589-6145)