



# Genesee County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board



County Building 2, 3837 West Main Street Road, Batavia NY 14020-9404

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **GENESEE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 1 BEGINS ITS EIGHT YEAR REVIEW**

**State mandated 30-day public review period has begun for Agricultural Districts No. 1 in the Towns of Alexander, Batavia, Bethany, Darien, Pembroke, and Stafford. Online response again available.**

The Genesee County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board announced that Agricultural District No. 1 will embark on its eight-year review with a 30-day public review period beginning on Thursday, January 26, 2023.

As with every eight-year review, landowners with lands in the district under review will be asked to complete a worksheet where they will be given the option to enroll or withdraw property from the district. Only entire parcels can be included or excluded. Landowners will receive the worksheet, along with an informational letter and map of the current district boundaries in the next few days.

### **Online Response Option Available**

Landowners will have the option to complete the worksheet via an online form. Genesee County was the first County in the State to create and rollout an online option for the Agricultural District program. Each landowner will have until Friday, February 24, 2023 to complete the online form or mail the worksheets to the Department of Planning in the envelopes provided. This deadline also coincides with the deadline for the Annual Enrollment Period which allows for inclusion of predominantly viable agricultural land to any of the County's Agricultural Districts pending review by the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board. In addition, nearby landowners that are receiving Agricultural Tax Assessments and are not part of the Agricultural Districts Program will be mailed a letter and form inviting them to join the program.

During this 30-day period, a map of the District will be on file and open to the public in the office of the Genesee County Clerk and at the Genesee County Department of Planning. Any municipality whose territory encompasses the above Agricultural District, any State Agency or any landowner within or adjacent to the District, may propose a modification of the District during this period. The District and any proposed modification will be submitted to the Genesee County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board for review. Consequently, a public hearing on the District and any proposed modifications will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 5:30 PM at the Genesee County Old Courthouse, 7 Main Street, Batavia, NY. At the conclusion of this review, the Genesee County Legislature will vote on any modifications to the District and send the proper materials to the State Department of Agriculture and Markets for recertification. The public is encouraged to attend all open meetings.

By enrolling land in the Agricultural Districts Program, participating farmers can receive relief from nuisance claims and certain forms of local regulation. Enrollment is free and voluntary. For a free informational brochure, please contact the Genesee County Dept. of Planning via phone: 585-815-7901, fax: 585-345-3062, or e-mail: [planning@co.genesee.ny.us](mailto:planning@co.genesee.ny.us). Visit us on the web at [www.co.genesee.ny.us/departments/planning](http://www.co.genesee.ny.us/departments/planning).