

Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)



An overview of the FPPA may be viewed by clicking this [link](#).

The official policy of the FPPA may be viewed by clicking [here](#).

The part from the above link that explains the NRCS field responsibilities is as follows:

M_440_523 - Part 523.01, Subpart A (E) Field Level Responsibilities

NRCS will, at the field level:

- 1) Provide clients with maps and other soils information, where appropriate and available;
- 2) Assist Federal agencies or other entities receiving Federal assistance with completing the [AD-1006](#) or [NRCS-CPA-106](#), where applicable;
- 3) Provide to the state FPPA Program Manager, based on AD-1006 submissions, a summary of activities related to farmland protection and evaluation assistance for the NRCS-CPA-2 annual report;
- 4) Maintain, and forward to the State office, a list of prime, unique, and statewide and locally important farmland soils, and criteria designating such soil map units for the office service area; and
- 5) Provide clients with information to assist in the identification and delineation of statewide, unique or locally important farmland such as high value crops or other data.

In Florida, the field may send the necessary information to the Florida State Office Soils Section for processing and reporting of annual requests to national office. Please use the following process which is also located on the Florida NRCS webpage.

Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) procedures in Florida

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a Federal agency or with assistance from a Federal agency.

The FPPA process must be used whenever Federal money or time is participating in the direct or indirect conversion of prime farmland.

It is the responsibility of the Federal agency submitting the form to decide if farmland will be converted to non-agricultural uses. If no conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses will take place, **do not initiate this process**. Activities not subject to FPPA include:

- Projects on land already in urban development or used for water storage
- Loans to renovate existing structures
- Projects planned and completed without the assistance of a Federal agency
- Construction within an existing right-of-way purchased on or before August 4, 1984
- Construction for national defense purposes
- Construction of on-farm structures needed for farm operations
- Surface mining, where restoration to agricultural use is planned
- Construction of new minor secondary structures such as a garage or storage shed.

Materials needed

1. **AD-1006** form with **parts I and III filled out** (CPA-106 for corridor type projects).
2. Preferred submittal would provide **digital data** of the project.
 - a. Export data to ArcGIS shape file format (polygon outlining project boundary)
3. **If digital data is unavailable, please submit maps** showing the project area:
 - a. Use points and lines on USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle topographic maps with the project area that will be converted accurately delineated. Use polygons only when they can accurately describe the project area to scale.
 - b. Provide dimensions of the area to be converted or if the project extends along a corridor, the width and length of each segment of the project.
 - c. Give other clues to the location – Quad name, "2 miles south of . . .", etc.
4. **Cover letter** with as many specifics of the project.
 - a. Again, include any dimensions from 2(b) above.
 - b. Include other directions.
 - c. List the county or counties where the project is located.

What's not needed?

Pictures of the project
Copies of other agencies comments
General questions concerning vegetation, environmental review, unique features, etc.
The FPPA pertains only to the conversion of prime farmlands.

Please submit all FPPA requests to:

Thomas J. Weber
State Soil Scientist
2614 NW 43rd Street
Gainesville, FL 32606
(352) 338-9535
tom.weber@fl.usda.gov

or to

Rick Robbins
Soil Scientist
2614 NW 43rd Street
Gainesville, FL 32606
(352) 338-9536
rick.a.robbins@fl.usda.gov