

CATAWBA COUNTY VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT PROGRAM APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION (please print)

Owner Name(s) (as recorded on deed) _____

Street or P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____

E-mail address _____

PROPERTY INFORMATION

	Parcel #1	Parcel #2	Parcel #3
Parcel Identification Number (PIN) ¹			
Number of Acres			
Current Land Use (field crops, grassland, livestock, horticulture, forestry)			
Is this property currently in the present-use value assessment program through the Catawba County Tax Office? ²	_____(Y/N)	_____(Y/N)	_____(Y/N)
Do you have a farm plan on file with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)?	_____ (Y/N or don't know)	_____ (Y/N or don't know)	_____ (Y/N or don't know)
If so, are you following the soil conservation plan on your farm?	_____(Y/N)	_____(Y/N)	_____(Y/N)
If not, are you willing to develop and follow a plan with NRCS?	_____(Y/N)	_____(Y/N)	_____(Y/N)

¹ Found at Catawba County's GIS site: http://www.gis.catawba.nc.us/website/Parcel/parcel_main.asp, the Planning Department or on your Catawba County Tax Notice

² For more information on the present-use value assessment program, contact the Catawba County Tax Office

ADDITIONAL SHEET TO LIST PROPERTY INFORMATION

	Parcel #4	Parcel #5	Parcel #6
Parcel Identification Number (PIN) ¹			
Number of Acres			
Current Land Use (field crops, grassland, livestock, horticulture, forestry)			
Is this property currently in the present-use value assessment program through the Catawba County Tax Office? ²	_____ (Y/N)	_____ (Y/N)	_____ (Y/N)
Do you have a farm plan on file with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)?	_____ (Y/N or don't know)	_____ (Y/N or don't know)	_____ (Y/N or don't know)
If so, are you following the soil conservation plan on your farm?	_____ (Y/N)	_____ (Y/N)	_____ (Y/N)
If not, are you willing to develop and follow a plan with NRCS?	_____ (Y/N)	_____ (Y/N)	_____ (Y/N)

**FOR FARMS NOT ENROLLED IN THE
PRESENT USE-VALUE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
(Supplemental Information)**

To participate in the Voluntary Agricultural District Program, you must be enrolled or ELIGIBLE to meet the following criteria for the present-use value assessment program.

The following types of land qualify for the present-use value assessment program:

- a. **AGRICULTURAL LAND** consisting of one or more tracts, one of which consists of at least **10 acres** that are in actual production and that for the **three years** preceding January 1 of the year for which the benefits of this section is claimed, have produced an average gross income of at least one thousand dollars (\$1000) per year. Gross income includes income from the sale of the agricultural products produced from the land and any payments received under a governmental soil conservation or land retirement program. Land in production includes land under improvements used in the commercial production or growing of crops, plants or animals which is under a sound management program.
- b. **HORTICULTURAL LAND** consisting of one or more tracts, one which must consist of at least **five acres** that are in actual production and that for the **three years** preceding January 1 of the year for which the benefit of this section is claimed, have produced an average gross income of one thousand (\$1000) dollars per year. Land in actual production includes land under improvements used in the commercial production or growing of fruits, vegetables or any nursery or floral products which is under a sound management program.
- c. **FORESTLAND** consisting of one or more tracts, one of which consists of at least **20 acres** that are in actual production and are not included in a farm unit which has a written forestry management plan.

QUESTIONS:

1. Have you owned your property for at least 4 years? Yes _____ No _____
2. Do you live on your property? Yes _____ No _____
3. Have all the parcels been in active agricultural, horticultural and/or forestry production for at least 4 years? Yes _____ No _____
4. If not, which parcels have **not** been in production for at least 4 years? Parcels # _____
5. For the three (3) preceding years, have the parcels produced an **average** gross income of at least \$1000 per year?
Yes _____ No _____
6. List the amount of acreage you have on your farm for each of the following categories
Agricultural land _____ acres Horticultural land _____ acres Forestland _____ acres
7. If your property includes forestland, do you have a written forestry management plan?
Yes _____ No _____
If so, what year was the plan prepared? _____

APPLICATION SIGNATURE

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, DECLARE THAT THE INFORMATION I HAVE PROVIDED ON THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. I FURTHERMORE UNDERSTAND THAT IN ORDER TO PROCESS THESE APPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNTY VAD ORDINANCE, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND TO ACCESS PERSONNALLY PROTECTED INFORMATION MAINTAINED BY THE COUNTY TAX OFFICE, FARM SERVICE AGENCY, CATAWBA CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE.

Owner Signature

Date

Owner Signature

Date

RETURN APPLICATION TO: NC Cooperative Extension - Catawba County Center
P. O. Box 389
Newton, North Carolina 28658-0389

CATAWBA COUNTY VOLUNTARY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AGREEMENT

Catawba County and the undersigned real property owner(s) ("Owner") enter into this Conservation Agreement for the Voluntary Agricultural District covering the following property(ies)

(list Property Identification Numbers)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

The parties understand and agree that this Agreement is being entered into in order to protect farmland, horticultural land and/or forestland in Catawba County as contemplated by Article 61 of Chapter 106 of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Catawba County Voluntary Agricultural District Ordinance (Chapter 4 of the Catawba County Code) and to permit said property to qualify for the benefits granted by these laws and ordinances.

During the term of this Agreement, the Owner agrees to voluntarily preserve and protect the conservation values of the property described above by prohibiting the non-farm use of the property for a period of 10 years from the date of signing this agreement, except for the creation of not more than three (3) lots that meet applicable County zoning and/or subdivision regulations.

This Conservation Agreement may be revoked by providing sixty (60) day written notice to the Catawba County Agricultural Advisory Board, or the Advisory Board may revoke this agreement based on non-compliance by the landowner.

Landowner Signature

Date

Landowner Signature

Date

Chair, Catawba County Agricultural Advisory Board

Date