

OREGON • AGRICULTURAL • TRUST

From the fields of the Willamette Valley to the ranches of eastern Oregon, over 37,600 farms and ranches are vital to Oregon's economy, way of life, and to the landscapes we love.

Yet as a generation of producers nears retirement, almost two-thirds (10.5 million acres) of Oregon's agricultural land will change hands in just 20 years. Meanwhile, beginning farmers and ranchers find it increasingly difficult to afford and access agricultural land.

The future of Oregon's rural communities, open spaces, natural resources and food systems depends on how this land changes hands and whether it remains available for economically viable agricultural production.

OREGON WOULDN'T BE OREGON

Without Working Farms & Ranches



Oregon Agricultural Trust is a statewide agricultural land trust designed to address the interrelated challenges of ag land loss, farm and ranch succession, and access to land for the next generation.

We partner with farmers and ranchers to protect agricultural lands for the benefit of Oregon's economy, communities, and landscapes. We do this in four ways:

AG LAND PROTECTION

Our primary tool is a working land easement — a voluntary agreement where the landowner sells or donates their development rights to keep their land available for agriculture forever.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In addition to holding working land easements, OAT helps other organizations do the same by providing education and assistance.

EDUCATION

We educate farmers and ranchers, attorneys and appraisers, the general public, and decision-makers about farmland loss, easements, and succession.

ADVOCACY

We advocate alongside state and national partners for funding to protect agricultural land.

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SUPPORT OUR WORK

Here are some examples of ways you can help OAT accomplish its mission to partner with farmers and ranchers to protect agricultural lands for the benefit of Oregon's economy, communities, and landscapes.

EDUCATE & ENGAGE

\$1,500

OAT has found that the best way to inform landowners about easements is at regular meetings of farmers and ranchers around the state. Our presentations demonstrate how easements not only protect land and legacy, but help with succession planning and business viability. Travel, staff time, and meeting costs average \$1,500/meeting.

SHARE SUCCESS STORIES

\$4,000

Farmers and ranchers find it difficult to initiate a plan for succession or an easement because they have not seen successful examples. OAT will create an educational documentary series of successful farm and ranch transfers, many of which include easements. The cost of travel, filming, and production is \$4,000 per 10-minute piece.

ADVOCATE FOR FARMLAND

\$15,000

Government funding is essential to compensate landowners for their working land easements. OAT advocates alongside state and federal partners to increase these funds for all easement holders. However, most foundations do not fund advocacy work. OAT dedicates \$15,000 in staff time and travel costs annually to advocacy.

PROTECT A FARM OR RANCH

\$40,000

Working land conservation easements require hours of staff time, surveys, appraisals, and legal advice — activities seldom paid for by grants. The average working land easement transaction costs \$40,000, regardless of the size of the property.

STEWARDSHIP IN PERPETUITY

OAT promises to monitor and enforce the easements we hold forever, which is a very long time. To pay for these ongoing costs, OAT collects \$50,000–\$90,000 for a Stewardship Endowment at the closing of each transaction. Interest from this fund pays annual monitoring costs of \$1,500 - \$3,000 per property. Donations to this fund offset contributions from working farmers and ranchers who cannot afford it.

HOW TO GIVE

Cash contributions of all levels are welcome:
www.oregonagtrust.org/donate

Stocks and bonds are one way to receive charitable tax benefits while supporting OAT

Real estate: OAT receives donations of all kinds of real estate. Donated ag land is either:

Held by OAT and leased long-term to beginning farmers and ranchers, or...

Protected with an easement and sold at agricultural value to a farmer or rancher.

Include OAT in your **Will and Trust:** Reach out to our Development Manager to learn how your personal legacy can contribute to the legacy of Oregon's agricultural lands.



LEARN MORE

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 [donate: oregonagtrust.org/donate](https://donate.oregonagtrust.org/donate)