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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ohio Department of Agriculture Preserves Thirty-seven Farms  
Using Clean Ohio Funds**

REYNOLDSBURG, Ohio (Sept. 28, 2010) – The Ohio Department of Agriculture today announces that nearly 6,200 acres from 37 farms are preserved through its Agricultural Easement Purchase Program using Clean Ohio funds.

The Clean Ohio Fund bond initiative won support from Ohio’s voters in 2008 to preserve farmland and green space, improve outdoor recreation and to encourage redevelopment and revitalize communities by cleaning up brownfields.

This year, the Ohio Farmland Preservation Advisory Board reviewed 203 applications from 37 counties competing for the limited money available through the Clean Ohio Fund. Applicants had the opportunity to earn up to 150 points based on a two-tiered scoring system. Section one of the application focused on development pressure, soils, proximity to other agricultural land, use of best management practices and local comprehensive land-use plans. Section two included narrative questions regarding the farm and its unique appeal to the Agricultural Easement Purchase Program.

The following is a list of landowners selected to receive Clean Ohio funds, pending completion of a legal review, title search and any necessary review of third party interests:

<u>Landowner Name</u>	<u>Farm Acreage</u>	<u>County</u>
Ayers	82.00	Ashland
Yeater	452.93	Ashland
Geil	180.00	Ashtabula
Perry	103.15	Ashtabula
Waris	150.49	Ashtabula
Bumgardner	545.43	Clark
Renfrew	152.93	Coshocton
Thomas, Michael	88.91	Fairfield
Young, Helen	140.28	Fairfield
Young, Joe & Cathy	125.01	Fairfield
Bratton	106.00	Fulton
Short	149.80	Fulton
VonSeggern	136.68	Fulton

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Weedon	284.00	Geauga
Wildman	473.56	Greene
Seidel	200.19	Huron
Helt	92.00	Knox
Seitz	31.82	Knox
Simpson	108.91	Knox
Thomas, Donald & Alesia	110.58	Knox
Deeds	254.75	Licking
Gibson	181.33	Licking
Morgan	71.37	Logan
Schlumbohm	102.30	Logan
Wysong	134.60	Montgomery
Gang	48.13	Portage
Tapalman	229.00	Preble
Welch	119.05	Preble
Mauch	598.82	Sandusky
Burks	55.16	Seneca
Ewald	162.94	Seneca
Fry	33.19	Seneca
Riley	120.00	Seneca
Wise	79.19	Seneca
Cox	101.42	Trumbull
Lipps	105.51	Trumbull
Weygandt	78.48	Wayne

An agricultural easement is a voluntary and legally-binding restriction placed on a farm. The easement limits the use of the land to predominantly agricultural activity. The land remains under private ownership and management and stays on the tax rolls under Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV). The farmland can be sold or passed along as a gift to others at any time, but the restriction prohibiting non-agricultural development stays with the land.

For more information about farmland preservation, visit [www.agri.ohio.gov](http://www.agri.ohio.gov).

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