



2019-2020 PROPOSED AGRICULTURE & TOURISM PLATFORM

FARMLAND PRESERVATION

MAC urges:

- The state of Michigan to provide greater leadership in permanently preserving agricultural land. The Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) certification should be a component of the preservation of farmland.
- The Department of Natural Resources to work with agricultural producers to promote the utilization of state-owned land for agricultural production, either through leasing of the land or sale of the land to producers.

PURCHASE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS PROGRAM

MAC supports:

- The utilization of all farmland preservation tools or resources that are available and exploring options for new preservation methods.

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

MAC urges:

- The Legislature to restore historical funding to local Conservation Districts and Michigan State University Extension to assist with the preservation of agricultural lands and natural resources.

CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS (CAFOs)

MAC supports:

- The consistent enforcement of current regulations and permit requirements for CAFOs. All CAFOs should be working toward MAEAP certification.

COOPERATIVE FARMING

MAC supports:

- Legislation that would provide protections to co-op farms and farm-to-table enterprises.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

MAC supports:

- State and federal timber management standards that provide for maximum yield, the highest timber quality and reforestation.

AGRIBUSINESS

MAC supports:

- State tools and investment to encourage food processors to come to, and stay in, Michigan.

TOURISM

MAC supports:

- Legislation that would provide for additional revenue options for counties to promote tourism.
- Maintaining, or increasing, the current level of funding for the Pure Michigan marketing and economic development campaign.
- Providing adequate or additional funding to ensure the additional growth of tourism across the state of Michigan.