

# WEST VIRGINIA CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

The West Virginia Century Farm Program is designed to recognize those families who have been farming the same tract of land for at least 100 years.

A Century Farm is one that has been in continuous operation by the same family for 100 years or more. A family member must live on the farm or be an integral part of the day-to-day operation of the farm enterprise. The farm must consist of at least 10 acres of the original holdings and gross more than \$1,000 annually from farm products.

## How to Register

- All six sections must be completed in full.
- At least five current photographs of the farm must accompany the application. Additional photos of buildings and structures are welcomed and encouraged.
- Deed documentation must accompany this application or be witnessed.
- No photographs or materials will be returned to you.
- Owner or family member must ensure validity of the application by completing the signature area.

## Ownership Rules

- The same family must have had ownership (title of the land) for a minimum of 100 consecutive years. Leasing or sharecropping does not qualify as ownership.
- Line of ownership from the first family member owning the land may be through wives, husbands, children, brothers, sisters, nephews, or nieces.

<b>Section One: Present Owners</b>
------------------------------------

Name of Current Owner (as it appears on the deed): \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section Two: Location of the Farm**

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nearest Town: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section Three: History**

Name of first family member to own the land (the "founder"): \_\_\_\_\_

Date the founder purchased or acquired the land: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of acres in original tract: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Place (country) where founder was born: \_\_\_\_\_

Use of land by founder (crops grown, commercial use, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reason for founder or ancestors migrating to West Virginia: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do any of the original buildings remain on the farm? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please describe and provide photographs: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide other pertinent, interesting, or historical information regarding the founder and any subsequent owners --- use additional pages if needed. This information will be used to prepare the narrative description of your farm for media releases.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Section Four: Current Information**

Has the farm remained in the family for at least 100 consecutive years?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

How many generations removed is the current owner from the founder? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the current number of acres in the farm? \_\_\_\_\_

How many acres of the original tract are still owned? \_\_\_\_\_

Does the farm produce at least \$1,000 in agriculture products each year?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Please detail any agriculture production (crops grown, livestock, etc.) that occurs on the farm: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is the farm operated by a family member or is it leased? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a house on the property? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, how old is the house? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, please list the current residents and their relationship to the owner:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please include any additional information on off-the-farm activities, such as involvement in community events or local agriculture-related boards, councils, etc. This information will be used for media releases.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

<b>Section Five: Summary List of Previous Owners</b>
--

<u>Founder's Name</u>	<u>Date of Acquisition</u>	<u>Relationship to You</u>
1. _____	_____	_____

<u>Next Owner's Name</u>	<u>Date of Acquisition</u>	<u>Relationship to You</u>
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____

Please provide one letter of support from community leadership (for example, Cooperative Extension, Farm Bureau, Conservation District, USDA, FSA, NRCS, West Virginia Department of Agriculture, Historical Society, etc.).

Submission of this application does **NOT** guarantee recognition as a Century Farm. A full judging process will be conducted, and all parts of this application must be completed. Applications received by June 1<sup>st</sup>, and subsequently approved, will be recognized at the Annual Awards Dinner in October.

**Checklist of Materials:**

- Completed application.
- Additional pages for further explanation.
- 5-10 photographs of present and historical nature of the farm.
- 1 letter of support.

**Section Six: Certification and Signature**

To ensure validity of this application, all boxes must be checked:

- By checking this box, I certify that the statements made within this form are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- By checking this box, I understand that all photos and documentation become the property of the State of West Virginia and will not be returned.
- By checking this box, I certify that the description of consecutive owners represents a true chain of title.
- By checking this box, I certify that I am the current owner, or a relative of the owner.
- By checking this box, I certify that the signature below is my own.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship, if not the owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!

Please provide names and addresses of local newspapers and other media you would want notified regarding this award.

---

---

---

---

---

Please return by **April 1** to one of the Conservation District offices listed on the following page for recognition (if approved).

## WEST VIRGINIA CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

<p><u>Capitol District</u> Kanawha County 418 Goff Mountain Rd. Suite 102 Cross Lanes, WV 25313</p>	<p><u>Northern Panhandle District</u> Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, and Ohio counties 1 Ballpark Drive McMechen, WV 26040</p>
<p><u>Eastern Panhandle</u> Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan counties 151 Aikens Center, Suite 1 Martinsburg, WV 25401</p>	<p><u>Potomac Valley District</u> Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, and Pendleton counties 500 East Main Street Romney, WV 26757</p>
<p><u>Elk District</u> Braxton, Clay, Nicholas, and Webster counties 1336 State Street, Room 200 Gassaway, WV 26624</p>	<p><u>Southern District</u> Fayette, McDowell, Mercer, Raleigh, Summers, and Wyoming counties 463 Ragland Road Beckley, WV 25801</p>
<p><u>Greenbrier Valley District</u> Greenbrier, Monroe, and Pocahontas counties 179 Northridge Drive Lewisburg, WV 24901</p>	<p><u>Tygarts Valley District</u> Barbour, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker, and Upshur counties Route 4, Box 501 Philippi, WV 26416</p>
<p><u>Guyan District</u> Boone, Cabell, Lincoln, Logan, Mingo, and Wayne counties 2631 5<sup>th</sup> Street Road Huntington, WV 25701</p>	<p><u>Upper Ohio</u> Pleasants, Tyler, and Wetzel counties 10 Pleasant View Lane Sistersville, WV 26175</p>
<p><u>Little Kanawha District</u> Calhoun, Ritchie, Roane, Wirt, and Wood counties 91 Boyles Lane Parkersburg, WV 26104</p>	<p><u>West Fork District</u> Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, and Lewis counties Route 2, Box 204-E Mt. Clare, WV 26408</p>
<p><u>Monongahela District</u> Marion, Monongahela, and Preston counties 201 Scott Avenue Morgantown, WV 26508</p>	<p><u>Western District</u> Jackson, Mason, and Putnam counties 224-C First Street Pt. Pleasant, WV 25550</p>