



PUBLIC BENEFITS OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS:

- Stretch public conservation dollars
- Require less in public services, generate more in local revenues
- Keeps it on the tax rolls
- Tax payers do not have to pay for maintenance and operation of fee land
- Conserve wildlife habitat
- Protect wildlife corridors
- Preserve open space
- Preserve farmland and ranchland
- Protect the local food shed
- Maintain character of rural communities
- Maintain historical sites, cultures, and traditional communities
- Protect water quality
- Buffer public lands
- Maintain landscapes for tourism

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC BENEFITS OF CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

- Conservation easements preserve agricultural lands, from family farms to ranches. Easement lands on which use is restricted to agriculture often generate more in local revenues than they require in community services.
- Conservation easements conserve watersheds and aquifers, helping ensure a clean supply of water for public use.
- Conservation easements buffer wildlife refuges and other of our most treasured national parks and public lands. As “buffers,” easement lands keep development from pressing up against park borders and protect migratory corridors and provide connectivity between public reserves.
- Conservation easements protect open space and enhance the quality of life in rapidly growing urban and suburban areas. Open space preserves scenic beauty and underpins quality tourism while giving local residents “breathing room.”