

ORDINANCE NO. 135

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKS,  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA AUTHORIZING  
A FREEZE IN REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASES FOR THOSE  
PROPERTIES PRESERVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
AGRICULTURAL AREA SECURITY LAW.

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Legislature amended the Open Space Lands Act to permit the County of Bucks to freeze real property taxes for properties that are preserved in accordance with "Agricultural Area Security Law" (See Act of February 2, 2006 P.L. 4 and Act of January 19, 1968, P.L. 992, no. 442, 32 P.S. 5001 et seq); and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Bucks has preserved farms located throughout the County in accordance with the "Agricultural Area Security Law"

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, desires to freeze county property taxes for those properties preserved in accordance with the "Agricultural Area Security Law".

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania does hereby ordain and enact the following:

**SECTION ONE. Applicability.**

Pursuant to the Open Space Lands Act, Act of January 19, 1968, P.L. 992, no. 442 (32 P.S. 5007.1), as amended, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Bucks does hereby exempt real property that is preserved in accordance with the "Agricultural Area Security Law" (Act of June 30, 1981 P.L. 128, No. 43) from millage increases for County real estate taxes. Properties eligible for the tax freeze shall be those that have sold conservation easements through the Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation program. The official list of eligible farms shall be on file with the County of Bucks.

**SECTION TWO. Period of Exemption**

The exemption from further real estate tax millage increases shall apply to those properties subjected to an agricultural conservation easement as described in Section One. This real estate tax millage freeze shall apply to the current and future tax years or until the Board of County Commissioners by an ordinance duly enacted shall terminate the exemption from real estate millage tax increases or until such time as the exemption is terminated by operation of law.

