



# Yolo County Agricultural Conservation Priority Plan



Agriculture has been at the heart of Yolo County’s identity, character, economy and way of life since the County’s founding in 1850. Important contributors to the strength and success of agriculture in Yolo County include the County’s longstanding commitment to agricultural preservation, its focus on directing growth into the existing cities and towns and the presence of UC Davis, which is an international leader in agricultural research and education. As a leader in farmland preservation, Yolo County continually explores innovative ways to preserve agricultural lands and has prepared an **Agricultural Conservation Priority Plan (Plan)** to provide strategies for the County to consider identifying agricultural lands that could potentially be conserved or mitigated.

## What is the Plan?

The Agricultural Conservation Priority Plan (Plan) is a strategy document that serves to support the County’s goals of orderly growth and preservation of high value agricultural land by:

- Identifying intrinsic values of farmland that are of high value in addition to food production.
- Identifying high priority agricultural areas for conservation.
- Making recommendations for conservation strategies and approaches.

## What does the Plan do?

The Plan is intended to aid the County Board of Supervisors in making decisions for agricultural land preservation. It includes the following strategy recommendations:

- Continue to focus on high priority conservation areas as near as possible urban growth boundaries, which

would multiply the value of conservation through reducing the development potential for lands on the other side of the conserved areas.

- Focus acquisition of conservation easements on prime farmland located in areas most subject to development pressures.
- Continue to collaborate with private and public entities to conserve farmland and support agriculture.

## What does the Plan not do?

The Plan does not:

- Substitute existing policies in the County’s General Plan or other planning documents.
- Dictate decisions for landowners.

## How can I participate?

Review the plan at:

<https://www.yolocounty.org/about-us/mission-values-strategic-plan>.