



# EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

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TO: Connecticut Agriculture Leaders & Organizations;  
Connecticut Conservation and Natural Resource Organizations;  
Connecticut Municipalities;  
Connecticut State Agencies

FROM: CT Board of Trustees for the Eastern States Exposition;  
Jiff Martin, Working Lands Alliance, (contact for the 2005 Farmland Preservation  
Pathfinder Awards)

DATE: 7/18/05

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## SEEKING NOMINATIONS

The CT Board of Trustees for the Eastern States' Exposition (the Big E) is currently seeking nominations for its ***Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Awards***.

Award categories:

- Education Leader Award
- Outstanding Individual Award
- Outstanding Group Award

Awards will be presented on **September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005** at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA.

Enclosed please find a nomination entry form and background information.

**Deadline for acceptance of nomination forms is September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005.**

*Home of The Big E*

2005 FARMLAND PRESERVATION  
PATHFINDER AWARD

**NOMINATION FORM**

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Step 1 - Please select only one award category below:

Education Leader Award

*For significant contributions by an individual, group or organization in the area of educating the public about farmland preservation.*

Outstanding Individual Award

*For outstanding achievement by an individual in the area of advancing farmland preservation in the State of Connecticut.*

Outstanding Group Award

*For outstanding achievement by a group (public, private, or non-profit) in the area of advancing farmland preservation in the State of Connecticut.*

Step 2 - Please provide the following information:

	NOMINEE:	NOMINATOR:
NAME		
TITLE		
ADDRESS		
TELEPHONE		
E-MAIL		

Step 3 - Along with this form, please submit a 2 page nomination letter that completely answers the following:

1. What are the nominee's accomplishments? (please be very specific!)
2. What has been their impact on farmland preservation? (for example, number of acres protected, amount of funding raised for farmland preservation, number of people educated about farmland preservation tools, etc)
3. Explanation of how the nominee solved challenges;
4. Any other factors the judges panel should consider.

**NOMINATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPT 2nd, 2005:**

MAIL       ATTN: 2005 PATHFINDER AWARDS  
              c/o WORKING LANDS ALLIANCE  
              191 FRANKLIN AVE.,  
              HARTFORD, CT 06114

FAX         860-296-8326

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If you have any questions, contact Jiff Martin at 860-296-9325



## 2005 FARMLAND PRESERVATION PATHFINDER AWARD - Background

Established in 2003, the *Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Awards* are designed to recognize individuals and groups that have supported farmland preservation in innovative ways that might include but are not limited to:

- ◆ **Public education campaigns** - e.g. an educational institution or community organization that raises public awareness of farmland preservation tools or promotes greater understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing farmland preservation.
- ◆ **Building partnerships to preserve farmland** - e.g. a private land trust that partners with a local municipality to raise funds to preserve local working lands; a partnering between recreational/open space planners with farmers to maximize public use of property while maintaining an agricultural enterprise.
- ◆ **Development of creative financing schemes to fund farmland preservation** - e.g. a land trust that temporarily purchases and holds the development rights of a farm while a state offer from the Farmland Preservation Program is pending for the same piece of property; or a creative business plan for working lands that ensures farm viability with support from a municipality or private organization.
- ◆ **Advocacy on behalf of farmland preservation** - e.g. a farmer that testifies regularly at the State capitol, an agricultural advocate or organization that submits commentary for print media, or an organization that leads an effective grassroots lobbying campaign.
- ◆ **Strategic planning for local conservation and development** - e.g. a town or city that has undertaken unique planning activities that are designed to protect working lands through the local plan of conservation and development; a private organization that fosters a vision of conservation in a heritage area that places farmland preservation as its central focus.

### Eligibility

- Municipalities
- State and Federal agencies
- Private and non-profit organizations and corporations, including land trusts
- Public and private education institutions of all levels (primary, secondary, college, university, adult education, community colleges, training institutions, as well as education programs of public organizations)
- Individuals

### Judging

The 5-member Judges panel for the 2005 Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Awards consists of representatives of the CT Board of Trustees for the Eastern States' Exposition, CT General Assembly, Connecticut Farmland Trust, USDA Natural Resource and Soil Conservation, as well as a 2004 Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Winner.

*The 2005 Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Awards are presented by the CT Board of Trustees for the Eastern States Exposition. Coordination and support to the Pathfinder Awards is offered in-kind by Working Lands Alliance (WLA). WLA is a broad-based advocacy coalition working together to increase the state's commitment to farmland preservation. WLA is administered by the Hartford Food System, a private non-profit organization dedicated to innovative, non-emergency solutions to improve food security.*