

SAVING

MICHIGAN'S FARMS



AGRICULTURE IS VITAL TO MICHIGAN



2ND

most agriculturally diverse state in the nation, with more than 200 different commodities.

Only California is more diverse.

FOOD & AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTES **\$101.2**



52,194

FARMS IN OPERATION
Compared to 56,014 farms reported in 2007



9.95

MILLION ACRES IN PRODUCTION



FARMING CONTINUES TO ERODE

BETWEEN 2007-2012, MICHIGAN LOST **83,243**

ACRES OF FARMLAND



2012 MARKED THE FIRST YEAR MICHIGAN DROPPED BELOW 10 MILLION ACRES



DURING THE SAME TIME, THE NUMBER OF FARMS DECREASED

2007 **56,014**



2012 **52,194**



WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

Michigan's Farmland & Open Space Preservation Program



SINCE **1975**



THE PROGRAM HAS HELPED PROVIDE A STABLE LAND BASE FOR FARMING AND SUPPORT YOUNG FARMERS' ACCESS TO LAND

FARMLAND DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS

AGRICULTURE PRESERVATION FUND

33%

OF ALL MICHIGAN'S FARMLAND IN PRODUCTION

24,115

ACRES OF PERMANENTLY PROTECTED FARMLAND

\$1,618,505

TOTAL GRANTS MADE 2005-2007

\$1.7M

(program generated funds)

2006

2013

\$460,000

FUNDING IS DOWN

DESPITE AN EXPRESSED NEED AMONG FARMERS

Current State of the Farmland Preservation Program

600+

 APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED EACH YEAR

\$0

AG PRESERVATION FUND

\$0

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS

2

UNFUNDED POSITIONS

Michigan needs dedicated **FARM PRESERVATION FUNDING**



Learn more about preserving our farms at heartofthelakes.org