



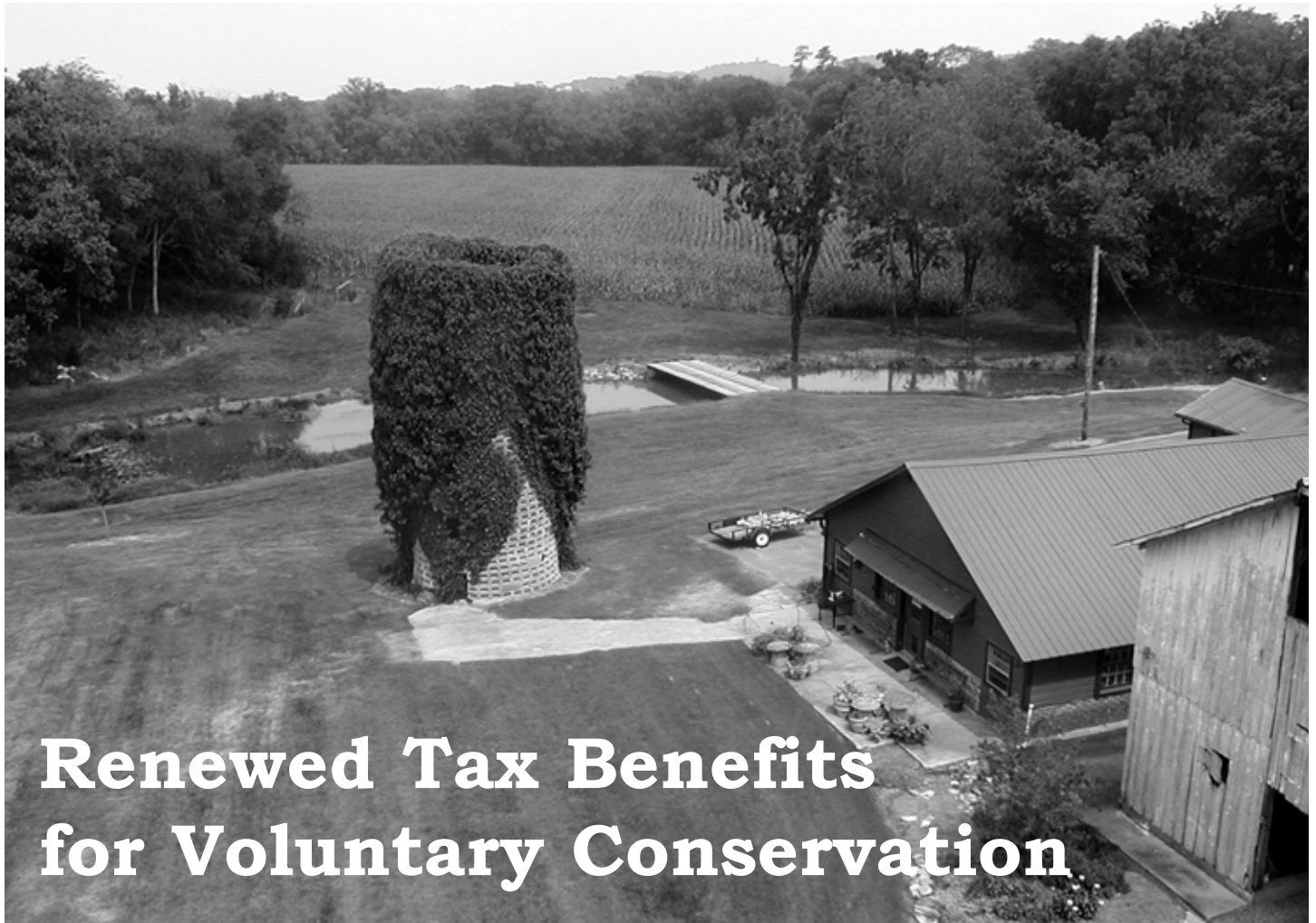
TENNESSEE CENTURY FARMS

The Land • The People • The Legacy

A joint program of the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Summer 2008

Vol. 5, Issue 1



Renewed Tax Benefits for Voluntary Conservation

On May 23, 2008, Congress passed legislation to renew enhanced tax incentives for private landowners. The enhanced tax benefits were part of the Federal Farm Bill (Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008) and will be available to landowners through 2009.

“This is great news for farmers and landowners who choose to save their land for generations to come,” said Jean C. Nelson, president and executive director of the Land Trust for Tennessee.

Portions of the 1833 Mayfield Century Farm (McMinn County) are protected with a conservation easement administered by the Land Trust for Tennessee. photo courtesy Land Trust for Tennessee

Nelson said the incentives will be available to landowners who conserve their property through a voluntary conservation agreement, also called a conservation easement. The incentive, which applies to a landowner’s federal income tax, will

- raise the deduction a donor can take for donating a voluntary conservation agreement from 30 percent of their income in any year to 50 percent;

continued on page 2

Tax benefits *continued from front*

- allow qualifying farmers to deduct up to 100 percent of their income; and
- increase the number of years—from 6 to 16—over which a donor can take deductions.

“While we are grateful to Congress for recognizing the importance of these enhanced benefits today, the Land Trust and organizations like ours across the country will continue to talk to our federal elected officials about making these incentives permanent before they expire in 2009,” Nelson said.

The voluntary conservation agreement is a contract between a landowner and a land trust, government agency, or another qualified organization in which landowners place permanent restrictions on the future uses of some or all of their property to protect scenic, wildlife, agricultural, or historic resources.

Conservation agreements are specifically tailored to meet important conservation purposes and the individual needs of the landowner. The easement is donated by the owner to the land trust, which then has the authority and obligation to enforce the terms of the easement “in perpetuity.” The landowner still owns the property and can use it, sell it, or leave it to heirs, but the restrictions of the easement stay with the land forever.

“This is a great opportunity for the Land Trust to continue our efforts to work with individuals and families who are interested in conserving their land rather than allow it to be developed,” Nelson said. “These incentives are especially important for those family farmers with less income who want to continue their agricultural legacy on their land.”

For more information, please visit the Land Trust for Tennessee’s Web site at http://www.landtrusttn.org/news_taxbenefits.html or contact the Land Trust at (615) 244-LAND.

The Tennessee Ag Tag!

Consider purchasing an Ag Tag license plate to help fund projects including 4-H, FFA, and the Century Farms sign program.



Congratulations

Please help us keep information about your farm current in our files and on the Web site by letting us know when changes occur. Farms certified after June 20, 2008, will appear in the next newsletter.

The listed farms were certified since the fall 2007 newsletter. While farms may have more than one owner, we list only the first contact owner of record, as supplied on the farm application by the family, because of space limitations.



Roy Buckner (right) and his son Phil are the second and third generations to use the cider mill bought by founder Zeke Buckner for the Rocky Top Farm (1908) in Dickson County. photo courtesy the Buckner family

to these new Century Farms!

AYRES FARM

County: Robertson
Owner: James D. Ayres
Date Founded: 1908

BACON FARM

County: Washington
Owner: Bruce H. Bacon Jr.
Date Founded: 1891

BAKER-YOUNG FARM

County: Gibson
Owner: Sandra Hall Arnold
Date Founded: 1894

BEARD'S TRIPLE H FARM

County: Houston
Owner: Guy T. Beard
Date Founded: 1851

BROWN FARM

County: Jackson
Owner: Jack R. Brown
Date Founded: 1896

BUTLER FARM

County: Rutherford
Owner: James L. Butler
Date Founded: 1880

CANADA AND GREEN FARM

County: Macon
Owner: Robert K. Green
Date Founded: 1907

CEDAR STONE FARM

County: Jackson
Owner: Donald V. Pharris
Date Founded: 1847

CLINARD FARM

County: Robertson
Owner: Jamie C. Dudiak
Date Founded: 1825

COUNTRY ACRES FARM

County: Blount
Owner: Kenneth R. Mack
Date Founded: 1900

CURRY FARMS, BETHEL

County: Giles
Owner: John T. Curry
Date Founded: 1883

HARRISON DAIRY FARM

County: Monroe
Owner: Steve T. Harrison
Date Founded: 1901

HASTINGS FARM

County: Dyer
Owner: Billy C. Ray
Date Founded: 1883

HOLLIMAN'S SOUTHERN CROSS FARM

County: Smith
Owner: E. Guy Hamilton
Date Founded: 1872

HUTCHISON FARM

County: Obion
Owner: Frank Hutchison
Date Founded: 1908

J. K. PICKENS FARM

County: McMinn
Owner: Edna V. Pickens
Date Founded: 1898

KENDALL HOMEPLACE FARM

County: Henry
Owner: Baker Kendall
Date Founded: 1833

LUCKETT FARM

County: Hickman
Owner: Cecil Wilson Lockett
Date Founded: 1893

MASON FARM

County: Smith
Owner: Allen O. Mason
Date Founded: 1892

MATHIS ANGUS FARM I

County: Hickman
Owner: James Mathis
Date Founded: 1903

MATHIS ANGUS FARM II

County: Hickman
Owner: James Mathis
Date Founded: 1905

MCBRIDE FARM

County: Henderson
Owner: Charles H. McBride
Date Founded: 1906

MORRIS FARM

County: Haywood
Owner: Sara M. Shelton
Date Founded: 1905

NEW-WILLIAMS-SUMMAR FARM

County: Lauderdale
Owner: Dorothy S. Woodard
Date Founded: 1869

OLD BROWNING PLACE FARM

County: Gibson
Owner: Marilyn R. Howell
Date Founded: 1873

OUTLAW FARM

County: Haywood
Owner: Jimmie E. Outlaw
Date Founded: 1833

P & Z FARM

County: Pickett
Owner: Richard W. Pierce
Date Founded: 1900

QUARLES PHILLIPS FARM

County: Putnam
Owner: Rodger D. Phillips
Date Founded: 1892

ROCKY TOP FARM

County: Dickson
Owner: R. Philip Buckner
Date Founded: 1908

SHULTZ FARM

County: McMinn
Owner: Wade Shultz
Date Founded: 1902

TIM MATHIS FARM

County: Hickman
Owner: James Timothy Mathis
Date Founded: 1894

TOLLIVER FARM

County: Union
Owner: Betty H. Bullen
Date Founded: 1908

UTLEY FARM

County: Carroll
Owner: Bobby L. Utley
Date Founded: 1907

WALKER FARM

County: Stewart
Owner: Marvin and Mary Walker
Date Founded: 1886

WARHAM EASLEY CAMERON FARM

County: Jefferson
Owner: Simmie E. Cameron
Date Founded: 1901

WBY FARM

County: Gibson
Owner: Beverly B. Youree
Date Founded: 1827



Tennessee Farmland Legacy Conference Today's Farms for Tomorrow's Families and Communities October 8–9, 2008

Discover how to make your farm a lasting legacy at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns. Farmers, landowners, and community leaders will learn about protecting and growing today's farms for tomorrow's families and communities. Discussion topics will include property taxes, estate planning, conservation easements, and other agriculture and community issues. A special event will recognize Century Farms founded before or during 1796, when Tennessee became a state.

Hosted by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, the Land Trust for Tennessee, Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, MTSU Center for Historic Preservation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Cumberland Region Tomorrow, the conference will offer information for producers and community advisors.

For more information about this October conference, visit www.picktnproducts.org or call (615) 837-5104.

Your Farm—Keeping It Profitable, Keeping It in the Family

Three outreach workshops conducted across the state will address concerns and options for women, minorities, and limited-resource farmers and those with disabilities who are actively engaged in agriculture. The focus will be on programs and assistance that can provide both economic and conservation opportunities. The project is funded through a partnership with the USDA-Farm Service Agency and the Tennessee Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program. Each one-day workshop will last from 8:00 until 3:30 with a complimentary lunch. For additional information contact the RC&D office nearest you.

Knoxville Workshop, August 12

Eston Williams
eston.williams@tn.usda.gov
(865) 671-3830, ext.4

Jackson Workshop, August 27

Debra Blankenship
debbie.blankenship@tn.usda.gov
(731) 668-0770, ext. 100

Nashville Workshop, August 19

Allen Persinger, allen.persinger@tn.usda.gov, (615) 444-1890

The Tennessee Century Farms Program, a joint effort of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University, documents, recognizes, interprets, and supports the conservation of farms that have been in continuous production and owned by the same family for at least 100 years.

Please direct comments and inquiries regarding applications, existing farm files, the Web site, and this newsletter to

CANETA HANKINS
Director, Tennessee Century Farms Program
Center for Historic Preservation
Middle Tennessee State University, Box 80
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
chankins@mtsu.edu
(615) 898-2947

Please direct questions about Century Farm signs to

LYNNE WILLIAMS
Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Ellington Agricultural Center, P.O. Box 40627
Nashville, TN 37204
Lynne.Williams@state.tn.us
Fax: (615) 837-5194

Visit the Century Farms Web site at
<http://histpres.mtsu.edu/>

This Tennessee Century Farms newsletter is produced as a public service by the Center for Historic Preservation at MTSU.

MTSU, a Tennessee Board of Regents university, is an equal opportunity, nonracially identifiable, educational institution that does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. AA303-0608

2-254400

Murfreesboro, TN 37132
Middle Tennessee State University, Box 80
Center for Historic Preservation
Tennessee Century Farms Program

STATE UNIVERSITY
MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 169
Murfreesboro, TN