

FARMLAND PRESERVATION POLICY

On May 19, 1998, the Lee County Board adopted the Farmland Preservation Policy by Resolution No. 05-98-011 which reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the majority of land in Lee County is used primarily for agricultural purposes while at the same time the need for residential housing is increasing, thereby creating the potential for conflict between residents of new and existing residential subdivisions developed in close proximity to existing farmland; and,

WHEREAS, when you live within a rural area in Lee County, you may encounter a number of practices that the area farmers have been and will be doing in their normal farming practices carried out for agricultural purposes such as:

1. Wide, slow moving farm equipment on roads or in fields at various times of the day or night.
2. Noise, dust or odors from the operation of machinery as well as herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, and manure being applied to the farmland.
3. Wind blown debris, such as cornstalks, soybean residue, husks, wheat straw, etc.
4. On rare occasions, airplanes applying herbicides, pesticides, or other materials.
5. Odors from confined livestock operations or pastured livestock manure.
6. Drainage problems and flooding may occur during heavy rainfall.

WHEREAS, the Farm Nuisance Suit Act (740 ILCS 70/0.01 et seq.) provides farmers with a statutory defense against nuisance suits where a farm has been in operation for more than one year and operated according to the established standards of the farming community for the type of operation being conducted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lee County Board that it is the official stated policy of the County of Lee to encourage development within the County to occur in such a fashion as to minimize conflict between farming and other land uses. This policy is expressed in the current zoning regulation and shall be incorporated into any new plan prepared by the County.

FURTHER, the County of Lee does not intend to enforce any rule, regulation or ordinance in such a manner as to violate the Farm Nuisance Suit Act.

I/We, _____ have read and understand the above Farmland Preservation Policy adopted by the Lee County Board.

Applicant

Date

Co-Applicant

Date