

**COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BODY
NOTICE OF A 30-DAY PERIOD FOR INCLUSION
OF AGRICULTURAL PARCELS IN A
CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT**

Agricultural districts are designed to encourage the continued use of farmland for agricultural production. Agricultural Districts should not be confused with town-designated agricultural zones, which determine allowable activities.

The Agriculture and Markets Law was amended by the 2003 New York State Legislature to provide farmers with viable parcels within a certified agricultural district to add those parcels to an existing agricultural district annually instead of waiting until the agricultural district is eligible for its eight-year review.

The Broome County Legislature, by Resolution 496 of 2004, established an annual 30-day period during which landowners can submit proposals to include viable land within a certified agricultural district. The 30-day period runs from December 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

At the end of the 30-day period, all requests for inclusion are referred to the County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB). The Board determines if each parcel submitted for inclusion consists predominately of viable agricultural land and if inclusion of the land would serve the public interest by helping to maintain a viable agricultural industry within the district.

The recommendations of the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board to include parcels in an agricultural district are made to the County Legislature, which, following a public hearing will vote to adopt or reject the inclusion of the parcels into an existing agricultural district.

Questions regarding agricultural districts can be made by contacting Laura Biasillo Cornell Cooperative Extension, 840 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, New York 13905, Attention: Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, (607) 584-5007.

Dated: November 27, 2019

Cindy O'Brien, Chairman
Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board