



# Lower Makefield Farmland Preservation, Inc.

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February 2, 2026

Resident  
Yardley, PA 19067

Dear Neighbor,

As we do every other year, we are writing to share information about the preserved farmland bordering your property, which is owned and managed by **Lower Makefield Farmland Preservation, Inc.** (“Farmland Preservation”). Maintaining open communication helps us all be good neighbors and better able to address questions or concerns that may arise.

For our newer neighbors, Farmland Preservation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization served by volunteer Lower Makefield Township residents. While we are not part of Township government, we work closely with the Township, which provides important administrative and maintenance support. Our organization was formed during the housing-boom of the 1980s to help preserve farmland in recognition of our community’s agricultural heritage and to maintain open space and the semi-rural character of Lower Makefield. Additional background can be found at: <https://www.lmt.org/government/boards-commissions/farmland-preservation-inc/>

We trust you enjoy the open farm setting and privacy this preserved land provides, and appreciate the important role agriculture and open space play in our community, economy, and environment.

Preserving farmland requires preserving farmers. Operating viable farming businesses in a suburban setting is challenging, and we are fortunate to work with dedicated, responsible tenants who continue to steward these lands. We are grateful to **Charlann Farms, Colavita Christmas Tree Farm, and Shady Brook Farm** for their long-standing commitment to our community and for providing locally grown products. We encourage neighbors to support these local businesses whenever possible.

Farmland Preservation owns and manages approximately **340 acres** of preserved farmland in the Township. Our largest ongoing expense is maintaining trees, fencing, and undergrowth along residential property lines. We manage nearly **12 miles of property boundaries**, including over **six miles bordering residential neighborhoods**. Many adjacent developments are now approximately 30 years old, and trees planted decades ago have matured and can present maintenance challenges. Tree removal and management are costly, and we do our best to address issues responsibly as resources allow.



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Each year, we also incur expenses addressing **bamboo encroachment** from neighboring properties. Bamboo is an invasive species regulated by Township ordinance. We respectfully ask neighbors with bamboo to manage it appropriately and prevent spread onto Farmland Preservation property.

In recent years, we implemented an improved mowing and maintenance program for the approximately **25-foot buffer areas** between residential properties and active crop fields. We have received positive feedback regarding these improvements and hope you have found them beneficial.

We work hard to be responsible stewards and good neighbors on our side of the fence. In return, we kindly ask neighbors to manage undergrowth and vines on their side of the fence line. Please remember these are **actively farmed properties** and are **not open to the public**. Trespassing and dumping of yard waste or other materials are prohibited. Nothing may be placed on Farmland Preservation property without prior written authorization. Please ensure landscaping contractors are aware of these requirements as well.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us through the Lower Makefield Township offices and a board member will respond. You are also welcome to attend our monthly public board meetings. Meeting information is available at:  
<https://www.lmt.org/government/meetings-agendas-minutes/>

You may also reach us by mail at **1100 Edgewood Road, Yardley, PA 19067**, or by email at **admin@lmt.org**.

We wish you and your family a healthy and happy 2026.

Sincerely,

**Lower Makefield Farmland Preservation, Inc.**

Michael Blank, President  
Dennis F. Steadman, Vice President  
Dan Bankoske, Treasurer  
George Heinze, Secretary  
Sean Carney, Member At Large