

## **SAVE OUR FARMS**

To preserve farms on the North Fork, local government needs to purchase development rights on land threatened by development. Once this is done, the land will remain forever agriculture - not housing. Federal, state, county and town funding now exists to do just that without increasing local taxes.

Over 3,700 acres are currently in the preservation pipeline in the Towns of Riverhead and Southold. Landowners have offered to preserve these acres in perpetuity. To preserve this land, our elected officials need to provide the funding to purchase the development rights at a fair price. Environmental leaders need to do more. They need to lobby in Albany and Washington to secure the North Fork's fair share of preservation monies.

Over the last 25 years, the development rights on over 10,000 acres in Suffolk have been purchased. Upzoning doesn't preserve land. No matter how many or few houses are built on the land, farming and beautiful vistas will be ruined.

Lets work together to secure funding to preserve thousands of acres of more farmland before it's too late. Urge Governor Pataki and President Bush to provide the funds we need. Urge our local government and environmental leaders to secure the funding.

Message from the Long Island Farm Bureau