

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: November 15, 2026

For more information, contact:

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Effective September 17, 2003, Agriculture and Markets Law (AML) 303-b was enacted to designate an annual 30-day period during which landowners may request inclusion of predominantly viable agricultural land in an existing certified Agricultural District.

Including viable agricultural land in an Agricultural District may provide landowners and farm operations with benefits and protections that include:

- Limits on the use of eminent domain and certain public acquisitions;
- State policies that support the continued viability of farming within agricultural districts;
- Restrictions on siting solid waste management facilities on land committed to agricultural production;
- Protection from local laws and regulations that unreasonably restrict farm operations;
- Potential eligibility for agricultural property assessments or exemptions, subject to applicable requirements under New York State law; and
- Protection from certain private nuisance lawsuits when sound agricultural practices and applicable disclosure requirements are followed.

The Lewis County Board of Legislators has designated its 30-Day Annual Inclusion Period beginning Sunday, November 15, 2026 through Tuesday, December 15, 2026. During this period, landowners may submit written requests for inclusion into the Agricultural District. Parcels requesting inclusion must meet the definition of “viable agricultural land” as defined in Agriculture and Markets Law § 301, definition 7. Lands already included in the Ag. District do not need to submit a request. You can look up your parcel by address using the **Ag District Mapper**  <https://arcg.is/1inGfz1>

Interested parcel owners must complete the Agricultural District Inclusion Worksheet, which must include a written description of the land, the tax map identification number, and be accompanied by a copy of the relevant portion of a tax map depicting the location of the property to be included in the Agricultural District.

The Ag. District Inclusion Worksheet can be located on the County website at: <https://lewiscountyny.gov/departments/planning-and-community-development/agricultural-district-6-review-worksheet/> or by contacting Megan Krokowski, Community Development Specialist, at megankrokowski@lewiscounty.ny.gov or by phone at (315) 376-5423.

Please submit all inclusion requests to the Lewis County Planning Department, Lewis County Courthouse, 7660 North State Street, 3rd Floor Room 324, Lowville, NY 13367 on or before 4:00 PM Tuesday, December 15, 2026.

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