

CONSERVATION GRANT PROCESS



Property owner contacts an eligible entity to protect their land or structure with historical, recreational, or natural value.

Eligible Entities include: Greenville County, Cities in the County, Land Trusts, Historical Societies



The eligible entity submits an application for conservation grant funding to help protect the land through a conservation easement or fee simple purchase.



or



Conservation Easement

A voluntary legal agreement where the property owner retains ownership but agrees to restrictions that protect the property's conservation values

Value is determined by an authorized appraiser

The funding helps pay the landowner for the diminished value that the restrictions of the easement places on the property and associated closing costs

Property is monitored annually to ensure compliance with easement terms



Fee Simple Purchase:

A transaction where the property is sold at or under appraised value

Value is determined by an authorized appraiser

The funding helps pay for the interest in land and the associated closing costs

Applicant will usually bring other sources of match funding from non-profits or federal, state, and local sources

Property typically has a public access component so it can become a park, trail, historical site, heritage preserve, etc.