

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AND POTENTIAL TAX BENEFITS

NEW YORK STATE CONSERVATION EASEMENT TAX CREDIT

You're entitled to this refundable credit if:

- you or your business own land that is subject to a conservation easement that is held by a public or private conservation agency.
- you're not a New York S corporation or S-corp shareholder.

How much is the credit?

- The credit is **25% of the school district, county, and town real property taxes paid during the current tax year on the land subject to the conservation easement** (excluding those taxes paid on buildings, structures, and other improvements).
- The amount of the conservation easement tax credit plus any other tax credit that is based on the school district, county, and town real property taxes cannot exceed the amount of these taxes.
- The maximum conservation easement tax credit claimed is limited to \$5,000 each tax year.

For additional information on claiming this credit, see:

http://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/credits/conservation_easement_credit.htm

Because this tax credit is an income tax credit, the local municipality and school district do not experience reductions in tax revenue.

FEDERAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT TAX DEDUCTIONS

The federal tax regulations governing easements changed in 2019. The Finger Lakes Land Trust briefly describes the current federal regulations on their web page *Donate a Conservation Easement* at: <https://www.fllt.org/savemoreland/protectyourland/protect-easement/>

Be sure to consult with your tax advisor or attorney to find out how the various tax incentives may benefit you.