

# *Town of Canandaigua*

5440 Routes 5 & 20 West

Canandaigua, NY 14424

Phone: (585)394-1120 - [www.townofcanandaigua.org](http://www.townofcanandaigua.org)

Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Application  
Funding from NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets  
2020 Farmland Protection Implementation Grant (FPIG) Program

## TOWN OF CANANDAIGUA APPLICATION PROCESS

### TIMELINE

- Application Window Opens: May 1, 2019
- Applications Due: **July 31, 2019**
- Internal Review Period: August 1 – October 31, 2019
  - Review conducted by the Town's PDR Team consisting of the Town Manager, the Finger Lakes Land Trust, the Town's Environmental Conservation Board and the Town's Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Town Board approval of final applicant(s): November 2019
- Joint Preparation of FPIG Application Package: Late Winter / Spring 2020
  - Town and Applicant complete and fine-tune proposal package together
- Town Submits FPIG Application Package to NYS Dept. of Ag. & Mkts. Spring / Summer 2020
- FPIG Application Due: Summer / Fall 2020
- Awards Announced: Fall / Winter 2020
- Project Closing (receipt of award): 2022 (Approx. two-year process from award announcement date)

CONTACT INFORMATION: For help with this application please contact the following:

Doug Finch, Town Manager: 585-394-1120 x2234 or [dfinch@townofcanandaigua.org](mailto:dfinch@townofcanandaigua.org)

Sarah Reynolds, Administrative Coordinator: 585-394-1120 x2232 or [sreynolds@townofcanandaigua.org](mailto:sreynolds@townofcanandaigua.org)

## PART A – Applicant and Farm Information

### 1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name of Applicant(s): Josh Branson

Are you the Owner(s) of the Farm/Land in this Application? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Applicant Address: 4901 Seneca Point Rd

**PART B – Proposal Package**

1. **ACREAGE IN PROPOSAL:** Please fill out the following table regarding the total acreage on your farm and the total of those acres that would be included with the PDR if awarded.

| Description of Land                               | Total Acres in Farm | Total Acres to be Protected |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Acres in Farming Operation                        | 395                 | 80                          |
| Acres of Crop Production                          | 275                 | 80                          |
| Acres of Livestock Production                     | 0                   |                             |
| Acres of Prime Soils (if known)                   |                     |                             |
| Acres of Soils of Statewide Importance (if known) |                     |                             |

2. **SOILS:** Do you have a soil survey map of your farm? ☐ Yes ☒ No. If yes, please include it with this application.
3. **PROJECT NARRATIVE:** For each subheading below, please attach a statement that provides a complete response to each. Label each answer with the corresponding title below.
- Current Farm Operation: Describe the nature of the current farm enterprise. Please include all of the following: type and size of operation, recent production yields of each product, total years in operation, number of employees (part- and full-time, plus seasonal, and whether they are family members or not) plans for future operations, amount of additional land owned and/or rented, and any awards received (i.e. Dairy of Distinction).
  - Long-term Viability: Describe factors and/or attributes of the Farm Operation that suggest it will likely continue to be a farm in the future. Include any succession planning.
  - Evidence of Development Pressure: Describe the extent to which the Farm Operation is facing significant development pressure and why it is at risk of being converted to non-farm uses. You may incorporate any figures, tables, or other information showing development patterns, trends, population statistics or other relevant factors as part of your attachment.
4. **INITIAL MEETING:** Please indicate if you would like us to contact you upon receipt of this application to set up a meeting between the applicant and the Town to discuss the application in more detail.  
☒ Yes ☐ No.  
 If No, please contact us within one week of the application due date to set up an initial meeting.

City Canandaigua State NY Zip 14424

Applicant Email & Phone: josh@rockyridge.maple.com 585-749-5430

Contact Person (if other than applicant): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person Email & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. FARM INFORMATION

Farm Name: Rocky Ridge Maple

Farm Owner (if different from applicant): \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Address (business center of farm operations): 4657 Rt 21 S

City Canandaigua State NY Zip 14424

Name of Person/Business who Actively Farms the Land (if not Landowner): I currently farm the land but some hay crop is Harvested by

## 3. LAND INFORMATION

Parcel(s) included in Farming Operations - Address or Tax Map #(s) (Please include the total acres of each parcel and indicate whether they are owned by the farmer or rented from another landowner):

|                        |            |       |
|------------------------|------------|-------|
| Tax #<br>24104.00/655a | 206 acres  | owned |
| 139.00-1-21.111        | 80.4 acres | owned |
| 244800141.1.19.1       | 107 acres  | owned |

Parcel(s) of Farm to be Protected by PDR (if different from above) - Address or Tax Map #(s) (Please include the total acres of each parcel and indicate whether they are owned by the farmer or rented from another

landowner): \_\_\_\_\_

139.00-1-21.111 80.4 acres

## Current Farm Operation

Rocky Ridge Maple Farms harvest maple sap for maple syrup production. We currently harvest maple sap from 365 acres of land. Of the 365 acres, 275 acres are owned and 90 are leased. We have 4 full-time employees and 3 part-time/seasonal helpers. Our business has been in operation since the first harvest season in 2012. We plan to continue our steady growth and have plans for future production facilities and warehousing to accommodate our needs. The land is all USDA certified organic, which we plan to keep this way, as we consider adding potentially new crops such as apples/apple trees.

## Long-term Viability

Rocky Ridge Maple Farms is a new farm enterprise with ample opportunity for future growth. We plan on taking full advantage of the increasing demand for our product as well as keeping an open eye for opportunities to develop new, innovative products. Our farm location allows for great opportunity in the agro-tourism sector along the Canandaigua wine trail. As we continue to grow we plan on positioning ourselves to take full advantage of this perk.

## Evidence of Development Pressure

We have seen a steady growth in housing developments in this region as well as other commercial businesses. We are in a good location with open land that is close to Canandaigua Lake in an ideal spot for development. In fact, we purchased this land from a family that was considering parceling the acreage off for lots for housing. They were much happier selling the property to myself to be developed for agricultural purposes instead.