

Sent from my To the Environmental Committee. I strongly believe in preserving as much farmland as we as a State are able permanently. The future generations will need this land for food. It really is that simple . this land is in the area called The Last Green Valley and is part of a Nationally important tract that must be preserved for farms and not used for anything other than farms. The land must be preserved for future generations permanently under specific conservation easements that would not interfere with the primary purpose of using it for farming that would benefit everyone. I have been reading that farming is regaining some of the lost markets in this State and if projected to be a major industry if we continue to preserve our land for this purpose. I am a member of Hamden's Open Space and Natural Resource Commission and I have visited a farm in the Fall of 2013 Farming Protected Land Workshops . This emphasized the many ways farmland can be protected .The Workshop was hosted by Kip Kolesinskas and after we took a tour of a dairy farm that was providing the milk for Cabot's famous cheese.I would recommend everyone on this Committee to one of these tours I also would recommends reading a publication called Conservation Options for Connecticut Farmland a Guide for Landowners, Land Trusts and Municipalities. This 575 acres must be preserved permanently for farmland it must not be lost to future generations .

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