



We all have our favorite places in Vermont—dairy or vegetable farms, forests or wetlands, sledding hills or swimming spots. The Vermont Land Trust is working across Vermont to protect the land that gives Vermont its rural character and makes our state so special.

Here are some highlights of farms conserved in Addison County.

Monument Farms



The James and Rooney families own Monument Farms, a 720-head dairy in Weybridge. In 2008, conservation made it possible for this third-generation farm to buy neighboring land affordably," said Peter James. "Conservation fit in really nicely into our (business) plan."

Misty Knoll Farm



Misty Knoll Farm is one of the largest poultry producers in Vermont. They employ 20 people and raise 225,000 birds. Owner, John Palmer comes from a family of poultry farmers and now his son Andre and other family members are involved in the business. In 2008, they used conservation to purchase additional farmland.

Champlain Orchards



In 1998, Larrabee's Point Orchard in Shoreham, one of the oldest continuously operated orchards in Vermont was conserved with the help of Vermont Land Trust. The proceeds from the permanent protection of the 158 acres made it possible for young entrepreneur Bill Suhr to purchase the farm.

Elmer Farm




Conservation made it possible for Spencer and Jennifer Blackwell to purchase the Elmer Farm in East Middlebury. The couple now own this diversified farm that produces dried beans, winter grains, and a variety of vegetables. The Blackwells participated in VLT's Farmland Access Program, which helps farmers buy agricultural land at an affordable price.

Blue Ledge Farm



Blue Ledge Farm is representative of Vermont's emerging prominence in the area of artisanal cheeses. Hannah Sessions and Greg Bernhardt bought the former dairy farm in the late '90s and conserved it in 2003; they used the proceeds to buy new equipment, reduce debt, and continue to grow their innovative business.

Addison County

 Land conserved by the Vermont Land Trust

