



PROTECTING WORKING LANDS IN TEXAS

The Texas Agricultural Land Trust conserves the heritage of agricultural lands, natural resources and wildlife habitats across the state of Texas. We approach this mission through voluntary private partnerships with landowners who share our vision. Together, we keep landscapes intact, implement outcome-driven conservation practices, support strong agriculturally-focused economies, and reconnect Texans to the open spaces that provide food, fiber, water, recreation and homes for both wildlife and people alike.

Texas land is disappearing at an alarming rate. More than 1.1 million acres of working lands converted to other uses since 1997 – a rate of decline faster than any other state in the nation. We believe in protecting these lands, and keeping Texas big, wide and open through projects and programs that support landowners.

Mission

To conserve the Texas heritage of agricultural lands, wildlife habitats, and natural resources

Guiding Principles

- Stewardship Requires Stewards
- Focus Only on Private Lands
- Help Landowners Protect Their Lands
- Trust Landowners to Manage
- Respect Landowner Rights
- Honor Donor Intentions

2021 - 2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

CORE PILLARS

STRATEGIES

OUTCOMES

PROTECT WORKING LANDS

- Establish meaningful relationships with easement donors and heirs
- Develop avenues for alternative landowner compensation including ecosystem services markets (i.e. carbon, water, biodiversity)
- Support succession and estate planning with landowners

- Protect 275,000 acres under conservation easement
- Forever protect legacies for 50 Texan families
- Protect 1,500 miles of rivers, creeks, and streams

BUILD COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

- Engage TALT's donor pool by highlighting private corporations, nonprofits, foundations, and government agencies that support working lands conservation
- Collaborate with like-minded associations in Texas to advance land conservation policy
- Host continuing education events and workshops for industry professionals including lawyers, CPAs, and financial trust and estate groups.

- Increase reach by 30% through communication channels, events, and meetings
- Develop a viable marketplace leveraging ecosystem services

ADVOCATE FOR LANDOWNERS

- Educate policy decision makers about working lands conservation
- Support eminent domain reform that addresses the threat of development to conservation easement properties
- Increase funding for easement programs including the Texas Farm and Ranch Lands Conservation Program and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

- Increase funding for the Texas Farm and Ranchlands Conservation Program by \$15 million

DRIVE ORGANIZATIONAL SUCCESS

- Secure sustainable operating funds through the TALT Foundation
- Highlight areas that differentiate TALT from other land trusts
- Maintain a committed, diverse, and active board
- Diversify TALT's funding portfolio
- Empower effective board-led fundraising efforts

- Increase inquiry to application conversion rate by 10%
- Reach \$10 million goal for Forever Texas Fund endowment
- Secure operational funding from three corporate donors
- Increase number of individual small donors by 10%