

What is Open Space?

The Wake County Consolidated Open Space Program is dedicated to protecting and managing high quality, natural lands and resources for the benefit of its citizens. Voters have overwhelmingly supported the program by approving \$91 million in bonds. Through surveys, citizens report the reasons they support the bond initiatives are to protect water quality, to preserve natural areas, and to promote a healthy environment.

Three out of four Wake County voters approved a third bond referendum for Open Space in November 2007.

Wake County is growing by approximately 25,000 people per year. That's 68 new people a day! Through its Consolidated Open Space Program, the County's goal is to protect sensitive lands and strike a balance between conservation and development. Through partnerships and the support of citizens, Wake County has protected more than 4,500 acres of open space and won national and state recognition as a leader among America's urban counties.

Population growth is causing the conversion of more than 1 acre per hour, or 27 acres per day, from open space to a developed state in Wake County.

Benefits of Open Space

- Protects clean water supply
- Filters air pollution
- Protects scenic landscapes that promote tourism
- Preserves endangered agricultural lands
- Protects greenspace for future parks and trails
- Attracts homeowners and businesses
- Absorbs flood waters

Land Protection

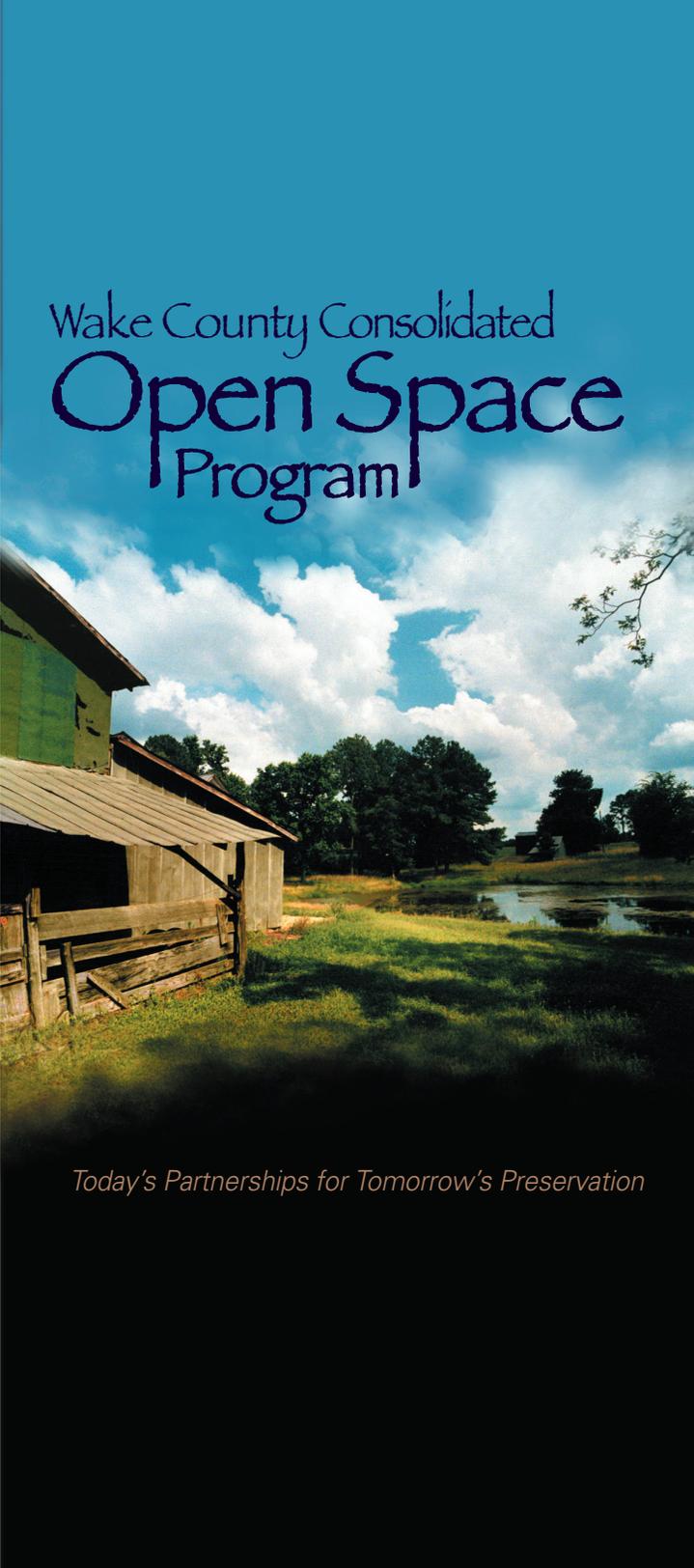
The Consolidated Open Space Program protects valuable open space in two primary ways:

- Purchasing parcels of land or conservation easements in targeted areas. (A conservation easement is a legal agreement that permanently protects a piece of land from commercial or residential development).
- Awarding matching funds to partnering organizations so they can purchase land and conservation easements to further open space goals.

Through June 2009, the Wake County Consolidated Open Space Program has protected more than 4,500 acres of Wake County land.

Examples of Acquisitions

- The 117-acre Joyner Farm purchased in partnership with the Town of Wake Forest.
- The 45-acre Holleman Tract, with the Town of Apex. A future park and connection to the American Tobacco Trail
- The 563-acre Procter Farm purchased in the Little River watershed in eastern Wake County.
- The 216-acre Angell Tract near Falls Lake, in partnership with the City of Raleigh.
- A 252-acre tract of land to help expand Clemmons Educational State Forest, in partnership with the N.C. Division of Forest Resources.
- The 55-acre Jefcoat Property, located along Penny Road in the Swift Creek watershed; 50% donated by Mr. Brady Jefcoat and 50% purchased by Wake County.
- The Eure Tract of land is a 115-acre expansion for Umstead State Park. Wake County provided \$1.92 million toward the \$6 million purchase price, partnering with Clean Water Management Trust Fund & N.C. Parks and Recreation.



Wake County Consolidated Open Space Program

Today's Partnerships for Tomorrow's Preservation



Wake County Consolidated Open Space Program
www.wakegov.com/openspace

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Partnerships

Partnerships are important to the success of the Open Space Program. By leveraging funds and with the help of the partners listed below, the County is able to extend the open space bond funds further.

Some of our partners include:

- Local Municipalities
- State Agencies
- Federal Agencies
- Private Individuals
- Triangle Land Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Lands
- Other Conservation/Preservation Organizations

