



## PERMANENTLY PROTECTING GEORGIA'S LAND RESOURCES

### The Georgia Land Conservation Program

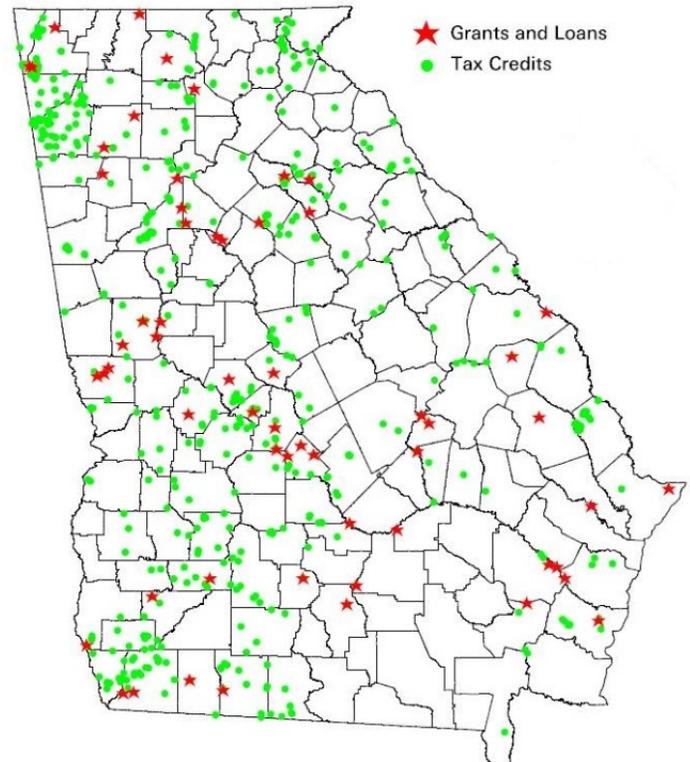
The Georgia Land Conservation Program (GLCP) works to preserve Georgia's land and water resources for future generations to enjoy. The GLCP offers grants and low-interest loans for fee title and conservation easement purchases from the Georgia Land Conservation Trust Fund and Revolving Loan Fund. It also manages the Georgia Conservation Tax Credit Program, which provides financial incentives for landowners to donate land or a permanent conservation easements on their property.

The ten goals of the GLCP, as outlined by the Georgia Land Conservation Act are:

1. Protect water quality
2. Provide flood protection
3. Provide wetlands protection
4. Prevent erosion
5. Protect riparian buffers and natural habitats
6. Protect agricultural and forestry lands
7. Protect cultural sites and historic resources
8. Protect scenic environments
9. Protect recreational sites
10. Connect existing conservation areas

**The GLCP has helped protect more than 323,000 acres  
in 113 counties since 2005.**

#### GEORGIA LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPROVED PROJECTS 2005 - 2012



(Over)

# Land Conservation Financing

**Conservation Tax Credits:** The GLCP offers state income tax credits to those who donate a permanent conservation interest in their land through a conservation easement. Conservation easements are legal agreements that limit the permitted uses on a tract of land. The GLCP assists landowners during all stages of the process, and offers guidance on claiming associated federal and local tax incentives.

**Conservation Loan and Grant Financing:** The GLCP helps local governments and nonprofit organizations preserve natural, working and historical land by offering low-interest loans and grants. Grants are currently available only to state government agencies accepting donations of conservation land and easements.

**Loan Terms:** Loans through the GLCP are an attractive option for cities and counties committed to land conservation. The interest rate for land conservation loans is 0.50 percent to 0.90 percent, depending on the repayment terms. A one-time 1 percent fee equal to the loan principal is due at closing. The maximum repayment term is 20 years, with no early repayment penalty. Land acquired must be permanently restricted for conservation uses at the time the loan is made, unless the loan is made to a non-government conservation organization in a 'bridge' capacity.

## Contact Information

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## Members of the Georgia Land Conservation Council

- Chairperson: Steve Stancil, State Property Officer
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