

Agricultural Unit Definition

St. Mary's SCD Policy # 11

Date Approved: October 7, 2004

Certain county and state ordinances and laws allow for an exemption for certain agricultural activities. For the purpose of determining agricultural eligibility to receive an exemption, the following land condition must exist: any parcel of record, not within a residential subdivision, that has ten (10) acres or more of cropland, hayland, pastureland or a combination of the three (3) and/or has at least five (5) animal units* with sufficient grazing and loafing areas and a nutrient management plan.

An example that would not qualify for either an erosion and sediment control plan exemption or a Forest Conservation Act exemption, as an agriculture activity for additional clearing, would be a fifteen (15) acre farmstead lot with three (3) cleared acres, and two (2) horses.

To clear woodland for additional pasture, the applicant would need an erosion and sediment control plan and an environmental permit from the Department of Land Use and Growth Management.

* One Animal Unit = 1000 pounds