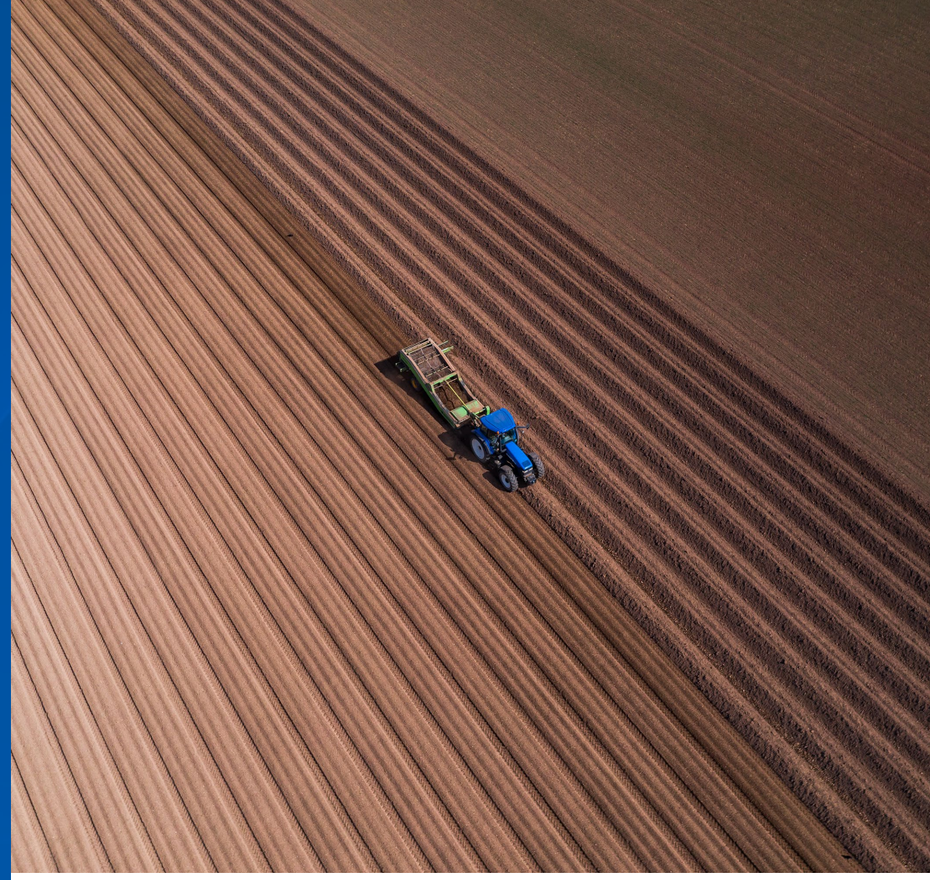
2025 Agricultural Preserves Program Report

Community Development Committee

MacKenzie Young-Walters, Senior Planner

June 1, 2026



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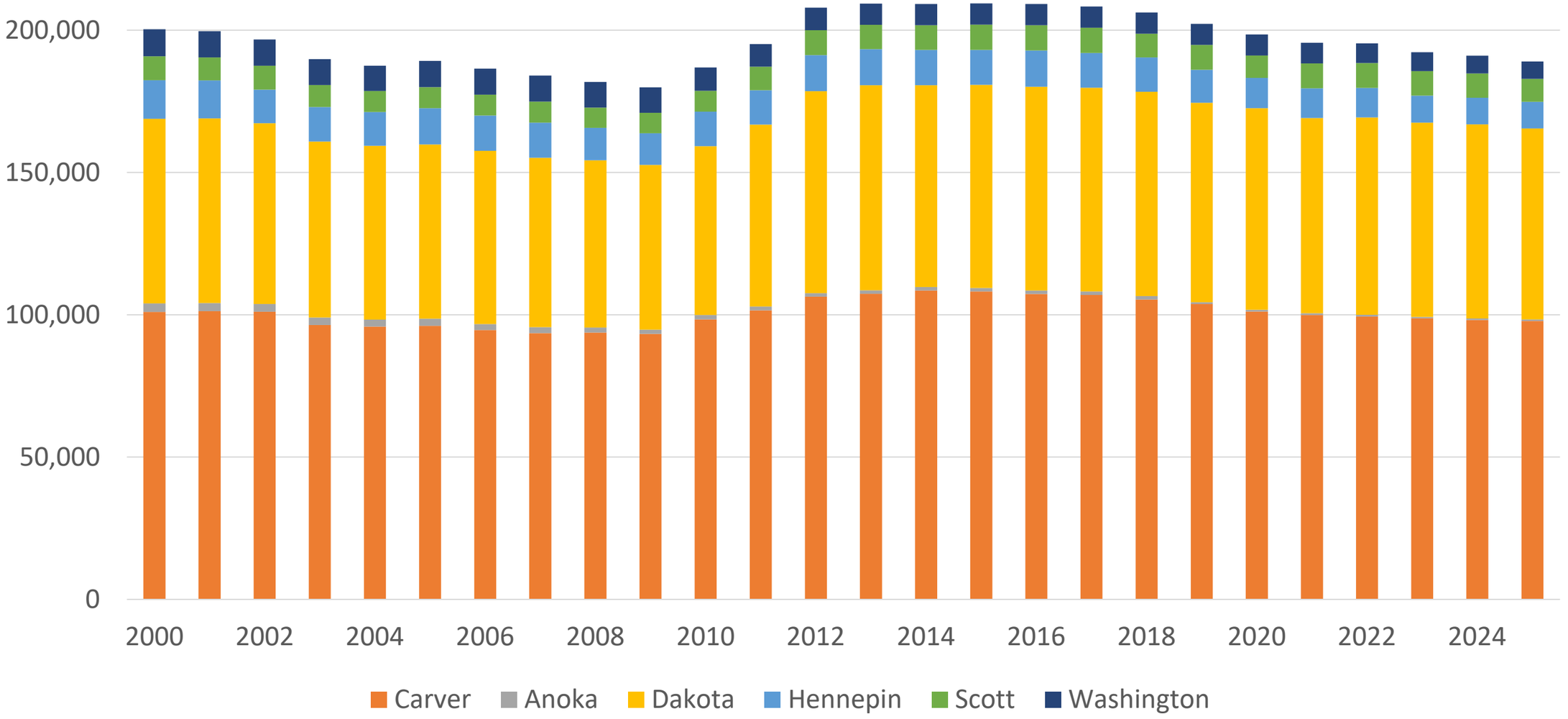
Overview

- Program Establishment: MN Statute 473H
- Local Comprehensive Planning
  - Communities designate Ag. areas
- Eligibility for enrollment
  - 40+ acres, some exceptions
- Enrollment process
  - Owner applies
  - Local authorities approve enrollment
  - Counties handle taxes
- Program benefits
  - Minimum $1.50 an acre tax credit.
  - No assessments
- Termination
  - After 8 years owner can request early exit (local gov. must approve)
  - Otherwise, owner or local authority can give 8-year notice

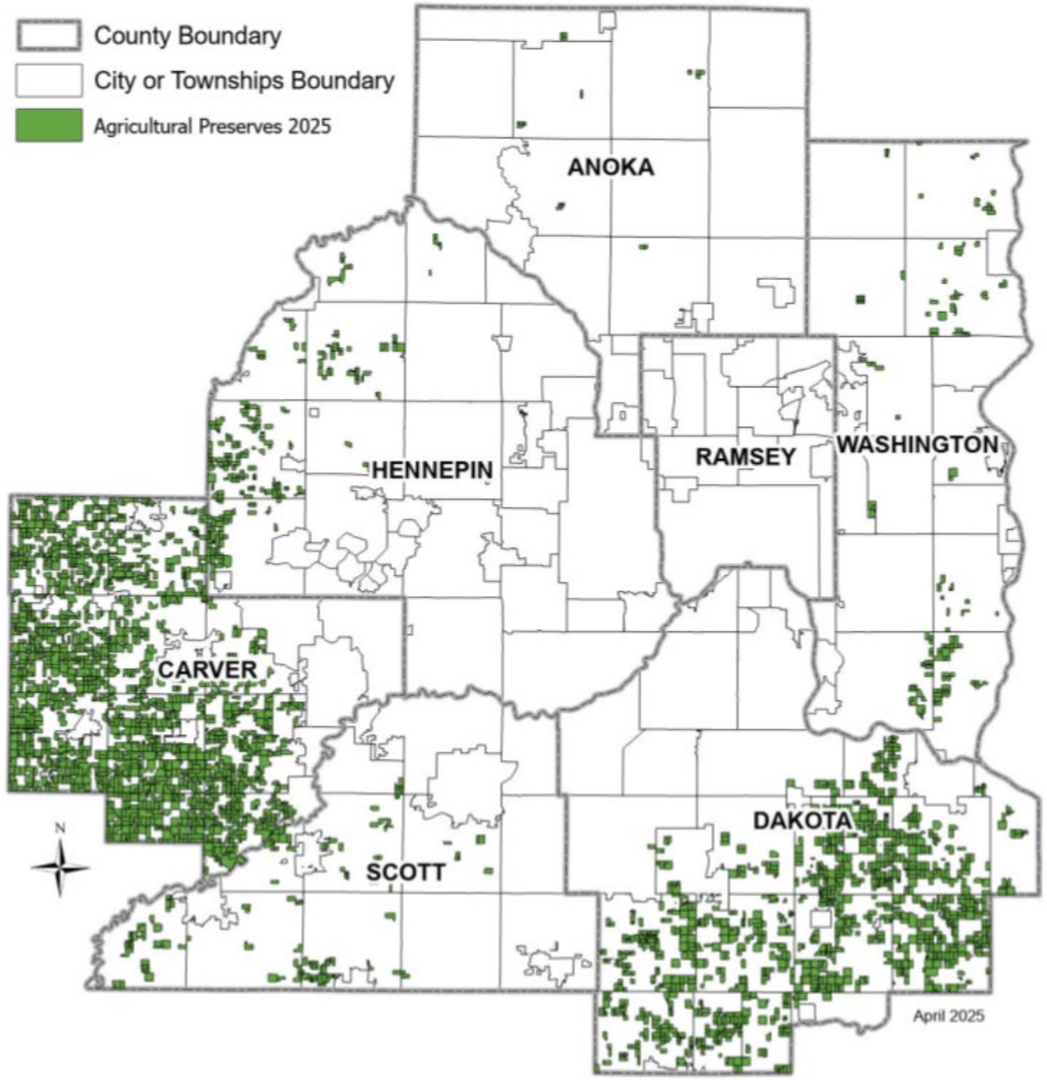
Enrollment Trends

After peaking in 2015, total acreage enrolled in the Agriculture Preserves Program has been on the decline

Enrollment Trends by County



2025 Enrolled Parcels



County	2025 Acres Enrolled
Anoka	569
Carver	97,805
Dakota	67,116
Hennepin	9,319
Scott	8,066
Washington	6,115
Total (Acres)	**188,989**

Funding

County	2025 Acres Enrolled	2024 County Conservation Account Revenue	Credits Reimbursed From County Account	Tax Credits Amount Left in County Conservation Account	Reimbursed From State Conservation Fund and State General Fund
Anoka	569.18	$ 43,134.50	$ 1,733.14	$ 41,401.36	$ -
Carver	97,804.58	$ 16,690.00	$ 16,690.00	$ -	$ 353,354.38
Dakota	67,115.53	$ 51,846.00	$ 51,846.00	$ -	$ 122,906.23
Hennepin	9,319.38	$ 136,870.00	$ 136,870.00	$ -	$ 36,908.19
Ramsey	0.00	$ 46,435.50	$ -	$ 46,435.50	$ -
Scott	8,066.55	$ 18,365.00	$ 18,365.00	$ -	$ 1,262.88
Washington	6,115.08	$ 38,105.00	$ 28,492.34	$ 9,612.66	$ -
Total	188,990.30	$ 351,446.00	$ 253,996.48	$ 97,449.52	$ 514,431.68

Note: $189,302 was paid from the State Conservation Fund with the remainder paid from the State General Fund.

Source: Minnesota Department of Revenue

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