

Recommended Voluntary Actions and Incentives:

Action #	Recommended Actions by Category	<i>Pertinence to Guiding Principles and/or Goals</i>
1.	<p style="text-align: center;">Preservation</p> <p>Work with public and private organizations and landowners to encourage conservation easements, deed restrictions, land exchanges, and other forms of voluntary land conservation as a means of preserving productive agricultural lands, river corridors, and other critical resources.</p> <p>Rationale: Voluntary tools for land conservation have good potential in Madison County. Private landowners must have ready access to the information and organizations that can help them use such tools.</p>	<p><i>Guiding Principles #2, 3. Land Use, Economy, Environment, Recreation, 3C's Goals.</i></p>
2.	<p>Establish a program for the purchase of conservation easements and development rights. Incorporate working definitions of productive agricultural lands, important wildlife habitat, and scenic views and vistas (See Actions #4 and #6 below) into the program. If feasible, create a local land trust to oversee fundraising and conservation agreements. Solicit funds from sources such as the federal Farmland Protection Program, the State of Montana, private foundations and individuals.</p> <p>Rationale: Purchase of conservation easements and development rights puts money in the pocket of the individual landowner, who in turn supports the land conservation effort. A local land trust can organize and legitimize a major fundraising effort and conservation easement/purchase of development rights program.</p>	<p><i>Guiding Principles #1, 2, 3. Land Use, Economy, Environment, Recreation Goals.</i></p>