



Bundoran Farm

Preservation Development at Bundoran Farm

Preservation Development is a method of protecting the productive use of land in perpetuity by using limited residential development to realize a significant financial return from the property beyond its ongoing agricultural use. It is distinguished from conventional urban or suburban development, which generally seeks to convert land from a previous productive use to a different one. Preservation Development is also distinct from restorative development which undertakes the remediation of land that has been damaged through industrial or other use. It is also significantly different from the conventional understanding of preservation (conservation) in that development does decidedly take place, and the land that is not built on is actively managed and used, rather than left fallow.

A paramount goal of Preservation Development is to “immunize” productive agricultural properties from conversion to conventional suburban developments. In turn, families attracted to living in harmony with productive land create a community committed to the active application of environmentally responsible principles by farmers and homeowners alike – a community that helps to ensure the long-term viability of the farmland.

Working the land is at the heart of the Preservation Development concept at Bundoran Farm. Bundoran Farm is a working business, a “factory” whose “factory floor” is the topsoil. This is not a case of living alongside a golf course or beside a national park. The land has been and will continue to be manipulated, worked and managed. The farmland will remain earthy, beautiful and a contributing part of civilization – a living example of the true definition of sustainability.

Analogous to the principles of sustainability, Preservation Development enables a viable blend of nature, agriculture and neighborliness that can remain that way, even as conditions change. Homeowners together with farmers contribute to the economic viability of the concept. Farmers together with environmental scientists are capable of developing land-use strategies that have the capability not only of preserving the viability of the ecosystem but of being better for the soil and more profitable in both the short and long term. Homeowners together with environmental scientists are able to expand sustainability beyond farming and beyond the borders of the farm into the choices and actions of everyday home life.

Preservation Development presents a practical, economically viable way to enable people to protect precious productive land from the sprawl of conventional suburban development while at the same time to reclaim, one homesite at a time, humanity’s ancient bond with fruitful nature. Bundoran Farm is the “proof of concept” of an approach that seeks to use development to help rescue traditional farmlands before those lands lose the ability to feed us.

For more information about Preservation Development and how it is being implemented at Bundoran Farm visit www.bundoranfarm.com or call 434-295-3700.