

**Town of White Creek
Draft Ag Prioritization**

Group	Criteria		Points and Criteria		Comment
		Rank	Points	Criteria	
Soil Resources = 50% weight (.5)					
A.	1. Percent of parcel in prime soils or soils of Statewide Importance need to use one or the other as there is too much overlap	.8	80 60 50	>75% of parcel 50 to 74% of parcel 25% to 50% of parcel	Priority is given to land that is considered on a state and national level to be of high quality for agriculture. Soils considered to be ranked with some points by the County are included in the “Other” category.
	2. Other soils as ranked by the County (not prime and not statewide)	.2	60	>10%	
Farm Resource Criteria = 25% weight (.25)					
B.	3. Is farm in NYS Agricultural District	.05	100	Parcel is in a NYS Ag District	Areas in a NYS Agricultural District are given a higher priority
	4. Does farm receive Agriculture exemptions/assessments	.05	100	Parcel receives an Ag Assessment	Areas having active agricultural uses as defined by the assessor or as parcels receiving ag assessments are given a higher priority.
	5. Is parcel in active agricultural use (ag property class, ag exemption, local id'd farms) This includes ALL the parcels included on the map. Is this one important? Only did the analysis on identified farmlands...not whole town. Do you want to change this? So every parcel is in active ag and is redundant. That is why the list of farm inventory is important. Is total based on parcel – not on how much of parcel was in farming. To do this – it needs to be digitized from aerial photo.	.4	100	Parcel has a 100 class tax code or identified in Plan as being in active ag use	
	6. Size of Parcel	.2	100	Parcel 100+ acres	

Group	Criteria		Points and Criteria		Comment
			80 60 40 20	Parcel 49.99 to 99.99 acres Parcel 24 to 49.99 acres Parcel 7 to 23.99 acres Parcel < 7 acres	
	7. Percent of parcel adjacent to lands in ag production	.3	100 80 40 20	75%+ 50 to 74% 25% to 49% <24%	Farms that are surrounded by farms have a higher chance of remaining in active use.
Development Pressure Criteria = 15% weight (.15)					
C.	8. Percent of parcel adjacent to Protected Lands (Purchased or Easements)	.4	100 80 40 20	>50% 25% to 49% 10% to 24% 0% to 9%	Areas that are adjacent to parcels that are already protected are ranked higher.
	9. Distance to State Roads and Major Intersections (3 miles almost covers all farms – too big as it captures all farms in this category – only 9 parcels more than 3 miles away)	.3	100 60 40	0 to ½ mile ½ to 1 ½ miles 1 ½ mile to 3 miles	The closer a farm is to a state road or major intersection, the higher the long-term development pressure could be.
	10. Distance to hamlets and Village of Cambridge (includes some hamlets out of town; 3 miles is too big – 1 parcel more than 3 miles away from hamlet or village)	.3	100 60 40	0 to ½ mile ½ to 1 ½ miles 1 ½ mile to 3 miles	Farmland closest to existing or potential public infrastructure has a greater chance of being converted to non-farm uses.
Environmental Resource Criteria = 10% weight (.10)					
D.	11. Wetlands and Wetland Buffers	.5	100	Parcel contains wetland and/or 100' wetland buffer	Parcels with critical environmental resources on them are also ranked higher
	12. Streams and Stream Riparian Corridors, also included ponds or lakes that fall within the stream corridor	.5	100	Parcel contains stream and/or 100' stream corridor	

* Ag lands that are already protected will not receive a prioritization.