



COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE STAFF REPORT

Project Name: AFD202500003 Batesville District Review	Staff: James Van Vranken, Planner
Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee Meeting: October 13, 2025	
Planning Commission Public Hearing: October 14, 2025	Board of Supervisors Public Hearing: December 3, 2025
Proposal: Periodic review of the Batesville Agricultural and Forestal District.	Comprehensive Plan Designation: Rural Areas

Periodic Review of Agricultural and Forestal Districts

As established in the Code of Virginia, a district may continue indefinitely, but it must be reviewed by the County not more than every 10 years to determine whether the district should be continued. Before being considered by the Board of Supervisors, a district is reviewed by the County's Agricultural and Forestal District Advisory Committee and the Planning Commission. Both the Advisory Committee and the Planning Commission provide recommendations to the Board as to whether the district should be terminated, modified, or continued.

Once it has received the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and the Planning Commission, the Board conducts a public hearing. After the public hearing, the Board may terminate, modify, or continue the district. If the Board continues the district, it may impose conditions on the district different from those imposed on the district when it was created or last reviewed. Landowners within a district receive notice of this process, including notice of any proposed different conditions.

When a district is reviewed, land within the district may be withdrawn at the owner's discretion by filing a written notice with the Board at any time before the Board acts to continue, modify, or terminate the district.

New Policy for District Reviews

In October 2016, the Board updated Section 3-201 of the County Code to clarify that AFD parcels without development rights should no longer be accepted into the districts.

District review standards require the County to use the criteria in 3-201 when conducting a review. This includes subsection (F)(7), which states that it is County policy not to include parcels without development rights in the districts. Based on this policy, all parcels without development rights will be recommended not to continue in the districts during review.

In November 2018, to avoid subjecting owners of such parcels to rollback taxes without warning, the Board directed staff to implement a plan to:

- Renew districts for a five-year period, rather than for 10 years (one time).

- Notify landowners of parcels in reviewed districts that are enrolled in open-space use valuation but that have no development rights that:
 - Their parcels may be removed at the end of the five-year review period; and that
 - They have the option to withdraw from the open-space use valuation now to avoid roll-back taxation and fees when the parcels are removed.

Some districts are now reaching the end of their five-year review period. Staff will therefore make five-year or ten-year renewal recommendations based on whether there are parcels in the district that are enrolled in open-space use valuation, have no development rights, and whose owners have not previously been notified that they will not remain in the district. If there are, staff will recommend a five-year review period and issue warnings; if there are not, staff will recommend the standard ten-year review period.

AFD 202500003 BATESVILLE DISTRICT REVIEW

The Albemarle County Code currently contains this description of the Batesville District:

Sec. 3-207 Batesville Agricultural and Forestal District.

The district known as the "Batesville Agricultural and Forestal District" was created and continues as follows:

A. Date created. The district was created on May 2, 1990.

B. Lands within the district. The district is composed of the following described lands, identified by parcel identification number:

1. Tax map 70: parcel 40A.

2. Tax map 71: parcels 23A, 23C, 24B, 24C, 24C1, 26, 26A, 26B, 26B1, 26B2, 26C, 27A, 29C, 29D, 29E, 29G, 29H, 29I.

3. Tax map 84: parcels 35A, 69.

4. Tax map 85: parcels 3, 3A (part), 3A1, 4J, 17, 21, 21D, 21D1, 22B, 22C, 30D, 31.

C. Review. The district is reviewed once every five years and will next be reviewed prior to January 6, 2026.

The District is located to the north and west of Batesville (see Attachment A) and includes 33 parcels totaling 979 acres. No withdrawal requests have so far been received.

Agricultural and Forestal District Significance: Of the 979 acres in the Batesville District, 810 acres have soils listed as particularly important for agriculture and 969 acres have soils listed as particularly important for forestry in the Comprehensive Plan.

Land Use other than Agriculture and Forestry: In addition to agricultural and silvicultural uses, the Batesville District includes approximately 26 addressable structures. (The majority of these structures are dwellings, but any barns or other large structures with addresses may be included.)

Local Development Patterns: The District consists of a mix of open land, pine plantation, and forest. There are four parcels in the District, totaling 162 acres, that are under conservation easements. A total of 643 acres in the District are in the County's use-value taxation program, indicating that they are in agricultural, silvicultural, horticultural, or open-space use.

Comprehensive Plan Designation and Zoning Districts: The District is entirely designated as Rural Areas in the Comprehensive Plan, and the parcels included in the District are zoned RA Rural Areas.

Environmental Benefits: Conservation of this area will help maintain the environmental integrity of the County and aids in the protection of ground and surface water, agricultural soils, mountain resources, critical slopes, and wildlife habitat.

Withdrawal: Landowners may withdraw their parcels from districts by right during a review at any time before the Board of Supervisors takes final action to continue, modify, or terminate the district. Landowners were notified of the review by mail on September 5, 2025.

We have so far received no withdrawal requests.

Development Potential: The District includes 18 parcels, totaling 266 acres, that have no remaining small-lot development rights.

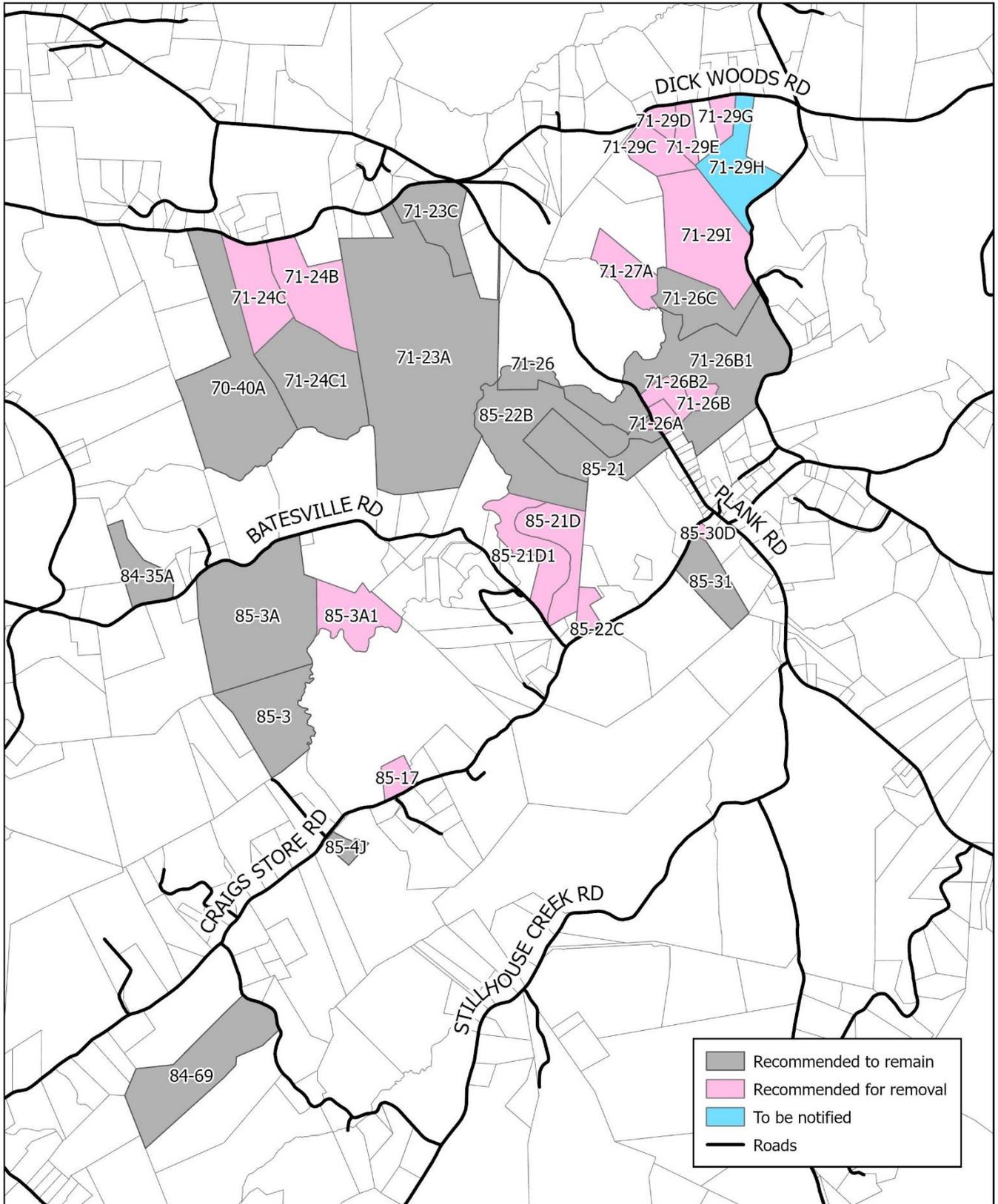
Parcel	Landowner	Acreage	Tax Category
71-24B	FARRIS, ROGER WESLEY II & JOAN STALZER	35.00	Forestry
71-24C	ADAMS, MICHAEL S OR DONNA G	21.00	Regular taxable
71-26A	SCHNORR, WILLIAM GARDNER & RACHEL COOK SCHNORR	3.55	Regular taxable
71-26B	LITTLEBERRY, LLC	4.65	Regular taxable
71-26B2	LITTLEBERRY, LLC	7.44	Regular taxable
71-27A	CRISLER, RICHARD C III OR JOANNA H	15.00	Regular taxable
71-29C	FARLEY, RICHARD FLATHER & AMANDA ELLEN BURKS FARLEY	13.80	Regular taxable
71-29D	MAGEE, NEAL E, TRUSTEE OF THE NEAL E MAGEE TRUST	5.00	Regular taxable
71-29E	SPILMAN, JOHN L & MARIE F SPILMAN	6.70	Regular taxable
71-29G	DONOVAN, BRIAN M & DANIELLE W DONOVAN	6.40	Regular taxable
71-29H	HALEY, ALDEN M & KAYLA R WHERRY HALEY	24.92	Open space
71-29I	FARLEY, RICHARD FLATHER & AMANDA ELLEN BURKS FARLEY	44.63	Forestry
85-3A1	HAUPT, MARGARET B TRUST & RICHARD A HAUPT TRUST	24.06	Forestry
85-17	BABINEAU, KATHRYN CLAIRE & SOLOMON ADEOYE BANJO	5.04	Regular taxable
85-21D	STRUMINGER, DAVID M OR STACY	21.00	Regular taxable
85-21D1	STRUMINGER, DAVID M OR STACY	21.00	Regular taxable
85-22C	CARTER, LEONARD J	5.21	Regular taxable
85-30D	LEEDOM, NICOLE H & ROBERT M LEEDOM	1.19	Regular taxable

One of the parcels (highlighted in blue) is qualifying for Open Space taxation through its membership in the District. That parcel is recommended to continue in the District for five years; the owners will be notified of the policy.

All other parcels listed in the table are recommended not to continue in the District.

Remaining Parcels: After the recommended removals, the District would contain 16 parcels totaling 739 acres.

Recommendation: The Agricultural and Forestal Districts Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet and review the Batesville District on October 13. Staff has recommended renewal of the Batesville District, with the above-noted removals, for a 5-year period. Staff will convey to the Planning Commission the Advisory Committee’s recommendation during the Planning Commission public hearing.



AFD202500003 Batesville
District Review

