**PUBLIC NOTICE**

TAX BENEFITS OF CONSERVATION USE COVENANT:

Your tax bill may be lowered if you devote your property to a current use and sign a 10-year promise to keep it in that use.

WHO IS QUALIFIED?

Certain individual, estates, trust & family farm corporations.

WHAT TYPE PROPERTY MUST I HAVE?

A tract of land consisting of 10 acres or more primarily used for one or more the purposes listed below:

- Property devoted to bona fide agricultural or forest production.
- Homes located in an area where land prices are rising because of nearby commercial development.
- Property classified as “Environmentally Sensitive” by the Department of Natural Resources.

WHAT MUST I DO?

You must sign a covenant application promising to keep using your property in the qualifying use for the next 10 years. Your ability to sell or develop it will be restricted during that time. You can sign up any time between January 1st and April 1st, or within the county’s time period for filing property assessment appeals. If you currently have your property in a “Preferential Assessment Covenant” you may switch to a “Conservation Use Covenant” if it offers you a better tax advantage.

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?

Please contact the Bartow County Board of Assessors office for official information about current use assessment at (770) 387-5090 or if you have general questions concerning this program, you may contact the State of Georgia, Local Government Services Division at (404) 968-0707.