



Aiken Land Conservancy

## Conservation Easement Process

- Step One:** Landowner contact initiated.
- Step Two:** Preliminary site visit by ALC representatives; discussion of landowner's conservation goals and available conservation tools.
- Step Three:** ALC preparation of preliminary conservation plan (2-4 weeks).
- Step Four:** Landowner review of conservation plan; discussions with advisors (family members, attorney, accountant, etc.).
- Step Five:** Landowner signs a letter of understanding to conserve their land.
- Step Six:** Project review by ALC's Land Acquisition Committee, based on project selection criteria; recommendation to Board of Directors to decline or continue with conservation project (2-8 weeks).
- Step Seven:** If approved by the Board of Directors, preparation of draft conservation easement, option to purchase, or other conservation tool; preparation of stewardship and monitoring plan and budget; initiation of fundraising efforts where applicable (2-6 weeks).
- Step Eight:** Initiation of baseline inventory (biological and ecological assessment), boundary survey, and other applicable services (4-8 weeks).
- Step Nine:** Final approval of conservation easement or other legal conservation tool by landowners' advisors, ALC Board of Directors, and ALC advisors (1-2 months).
- Step Ten:** Conservation easement or other legal documents are signed by parties and recorded with county.
- Step Eleven:** Press announcements made (as determined by landowner).
- Step Twelve:** ALC assumes responsibility for monitoring the property.

*This outline represents the ideal scenario. As each property and landowner may have different needs and goals, not all conservation projects will follow this outline.*

To learn more about protecting your land with a conservation easement, contact us at:

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