**State Farm Company Grants**

State Farm provides company grants focused in three areas: safety, communities and innovation. The Innovation Grants Program supports creative, ambitious conservation partnerships that engage diverse communities and find innovative solutions to environmental challenges.

**May 31, 2012 Deadline:**
Programs vary; grants program applications due annually in April.

**Contact:**
Visit www.StateFarm.org or contact [State Farm](mailto:StateFarm@StateFarm.com)

### INDUSTRIAL SITES

1. **Lumberton**
   - 125,775 square, former use agriculture.
2. **Greensville**
   - 300 acres; 3 Sites available in Phase I ranging from 1.5 to 32.5 acres. Sites can be combined to form larger parcels.

### COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

1. **Beacons**
   - Former bakery, 4,500 square feet
2. **Rocky Mount**
   - Douglas Black

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**Monroe’s Sights Are Set on the Aerospace Industry—and Vice Versa**

Monroe is the headquarters for Goodrich Customer Services as well as four maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) camps in the Americas. Located near to Monroe Regional Airport, it provides MRO services for a variety of commercial and regional aircraft and military aircraft.

**Great news! . . .**

When it comes to economic development, the City of Monroe has an enviable record of success. In just the last 15 years Monroe Economic Development has been engaged in the recruitment and retention of dozens of companies that have collectively invested more than $1 billion and created more than 5,000 jobs.

**We’re here to serve you! . . .**

When pursuing new economic development targets, Monroe focuses its recruitment efforts around seven distinct industries including areas like plastics, medical manufacturing and food processing. With that said, a quick look at the numbers shows that one sector is really catching the industry’s attention. "It’s a combination of our location, a skilled workforce familiar with the needs of the industry, and a pro-business, forward-thinking group of elected leaders. All that, plus our growing reputation as a leading aerospace cluster, is really underscoring the industry’s interest," replies Platé. “It’s a lot of different things that have enabled Union County to maintain the lowest unemployment rates in the entire Monroe-Chatham region for the last 15 years. When pursuing new economic development targets, Monroe focuses its recruitment efforts around seven distinct industries including areas like plastics, medical manufacturing and food processing. With that said, a quick look at the numbers shows that one sector is really catching the industry’s attention. "It’s a combination of our location, a skilled workforce familiar with the needs of the industry, and a pro-business, forward-thinking group of elected leaders. All that, plus our growing reputation as a leading aerospace cluster, is really underscoring the industry’s interest."
Around the state

Great news!

North Carolina: The Next 30 Years

A strong correlation that experiencing a surge in new jobs and expanding businesses will take some time to acknowledge and fully realize. That’s why anyone who has lived in the state for even a short period of time may perceive that there is little change.

However, there is much to celebrate within the state. The availability of a skilled workforce and a reasonable cost of living make this an attractive place to do business or live.

Looking back, we see the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Regional Economic Development Commission, which is charged with helping to attract new companies and retain existing ones, has been successful in attracting new businesses to the region. The commission has worked on projects that have resulted in job creation and increased economic activity.

In addition, the state has been successful in expanding its workforce through education and training programs. The North Carolina Department of Commerce offers a variety of services to help businesses grow and succeed in the state.

The N.C. Department of Commerce has announced that an additional $28 million in funding will be available for community development projects in the state. This funding will support projects that aim to boost economic growth and create jobs.

The department has also announced that it will provide a $5 million grant to support the construction of new community centers.

The state has also been successful in attracting new businesses to the state. In recent years, the state has secured several major new investments, including a new plant in Gastonia and a new headquarters in Charlotte.

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Looking ahead, the state has several important initiatives that will help to ensure continued economic growth. The state has committed to expanding its workforce through education and training programs, and it has also been successful in attracting new businesses to the state.

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