

FARM LINK AND TRANSITION PILOT WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012, 8:00 AM TO 4:30 PM, LUNCH INCLUDED!
OLD DOMINION AGRICULTURE CENTER, CHATHAM, VA



Background: The 2nd in a series of pilot workshops throughout Virginia designed in partnership between the Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Office of Farmland Preservation in an effort to enhance the Virginia Farm Link Program, and to aid discussions of how to effectively create successful farm transitions through mentoring partnerships in the future.

Audience: (Anyone is welcome, so please bring your spouse and interested family members too!)

- Any farm owner or farm seeker interested in meeting people who are serious about agriculture's future, and those who may not currently have a path to extending their farm business
- Farm or land owners who would like to know more about how to successfully transition at minimal expense or discover new ways to utilize currently owned farm land
- Farm owners willing to mentor farm seekers looking to either start or expand their farming operations
- Farm seekers looking to meet farm owners interested in providing agricultural mentoring opportunities
- Farm family members who are interested in exploring farm transition options



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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND
CONSUMER SERVICES



OVERVIEW OF ONE-DAY WORKSHOP AGENDA

General session: (starting at 8:00 AM)

Bella Acres case study - Participate in a farm family case study addressing farm transition issues

Breakout sessions:

Breakout 1: Farm owner and advanced land owner session - Meet with legal and estate planning professionals; Review challenges facing farm seekers/new farmers; Evaluate lease options; Discuss tax and legal aspects of farm transitions (What questions to ask? How to assemble a team of professionals?)

Breakout 2: Expanding your farm operation - Lease agreements and production management tips; Legal, tax and estate planning issues for transitioning farmers (What land owners ask? How to assemble a team of professionals?): Financial assistance - Building your loan acceptance resume; Liability and insurance issues

Breakout 3: Beginning farmers and new landowners - First steps in legal and tax questions for farm seekers or new land owners; Basics of Whole Farm Planning; Land acquisition approaches and lease agreements; Basics of financial planning and financial assistance for beginning farmers; Resources (bookkeeping software, etc.); Farm Insurance and Estate Planning 101

Networking Lunch: (approximately at noon)

A free lunch is provided as a part of the program and includes plenty of opportunities to network with farm and land owners, and/or farm seekers and beginning farmers.

Afternoon general sessions: (ending no later than 4:30 PM)

Thinking through farm transitions - Real examples of success and challenges on the farm - A farmer panel will discuss the issues and challenges they faced during farm transitions. In addition, participants will address additional resources available or needed.

Understanding farm owner & farm seeker perspectives - Farm Speed Dating - A fast-paced and fun way to meet potential mentors or individuals who could help your farm continue into the next generation.

Putting it all together - Your next steps for farm transition planning & what can we do to help you?

Too good to walk away... An informal reception for farm owners, land owners, farm seekers and beginning farmers will allow time to interact with each other and/or presenters.

To register or for more information

Visit the website below or

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