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Beginning  
Farmer  
**NEWS**

*Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.*



### **Tedesco Farm available for the 2023 growing season**

The Tedesco Farm is a 13-acre farm located near Granger, Iowa. In 2016, **Angela Tedesco** gifted these acres to Practical Farmers of Iowa. We are seeking a new tenant for the 2024 growing season, with potential for a longer-term lease in 2025.

We're looking for a tenant who:

- Is a member of PFI- with preference given to beginning and historically underserved farmers
- Has previous farming experience
- Can express clear goals and visions for their business, has a plan to achieve those goals and can show evidence they can carry out that mission
- Has the entrepreneurial ability to create a budget and cashflow their business

The initial application will be followed by a round of interviews. A committee of PFI members with diverse experiences in farming and farmland access will select which candidates move to the interview round. This committee will sit in on interviews and select the next tenant for this parcel of land by November 2023.

[Learn more & apply](#)

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### Meet Joe Klingelhutz, a Farmland Access Navigator



**Joe Klingelhutz** lives in Iowa City, Iowa, where he runs his own independent beekeeping operation and works for two organic vegetable farms. He is excited to work as a navigator with [Renewing the Countryside](#) to help other farmers find land to meet their goals.

We asked Joe: What should beginning farmers look for in a lease with a landowner?

"Make sure to have things down in writing," Joe says. "Take notes during initial lease conversations so that you can come back to them and **have a mutual understanding between the farmer and the landowner**. Also, building in long-term security is important. Year-to-year leases are something to start with, but **working towards a lease that will allow you to stay on the land for years will offer your farm security.**"

Looking for land? [Reach out to Joe and other Farmland Access Navigators on the \*Renewing the Countryside\* website.](#)

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### Video: "Community-Engaged Seed Keeping of the African Diaspora"

During [this past annual conference session](#), **Ty Holmberg**, co-director at Sankofa Community Farm at Bartram's



COMMUNITY  
ENGAGED  
SEED KEEPING  
AND THE  
PRAXIS OF  
SANKOFA

Ty Holmberg  
Co-director of Sankofa  
Community Farm at Bartram's  
Garden  
in Southwest Philadelphia

Garden in Philadelphia, shares their process and experiences with community engagement through seed keeping. He also discusses ways white people can meaningfully engage with communities of color on agricultural topics.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Online workshop: "When Pesticide Drift Happens to You"



**Aug. 18 | 1-4:30 p.m. | [Online](#)**

You just had a pesticide drift incident. Now what?

**[In this free online workshop](#)**, we'll discuss the process of pesticide drift investigation, litigation and compensation following a misapplication event. Hear from **Rob Faux and Emily Marquez** from the Pesticide Action Network; **Karen Varley**, environmental lawyer; and **Mark Smith** from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

### Field day: Community Farm Tour at Matthew 25



**Aug. 19 | 1-3 p.m. | Cedar Rapids, IA**

Join us for a field day at nonprofit organization Matthew 25's 2-acre urban farm, Cultivate Hope Urban Farm.

Cultivate Hope hosts educational programming, offers small plots to community members, and functions as a gathering space. You'll tour the urban farm, learn about its history and mission and hear from the farmers. **[RSVP online.](#)**

## Join us for a beginning farmer social at Groundswell Café



**Aug. 19 | 3:30-5 p.m. | Cedar Rapids, IA**

Following the Matthew 25 Field Day, PFI will host a beginning farmer social at Groundswell Cafe just a couple blocks away.

Aspiring farmers, beginning farmers, and experienced farmers looking to mentor the next generation are welcome. Snacks will be provided!

You will get a chance to meet other beginning farmers in your area, network and learn more about PFI. **To RSVP, please respond to this email.**

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### Upcoming PFI events

*All events listed in Central Time.*

**Aug. 20: Field Day – Collaborating to Scale Up Local Food Production**

*Hosted by: Carmen Black, Maja Black, Helaina Thompson & Carlos Williams  
1-3 p.m. | Solon, IA*

**Sept. 9: Field Day – Pastured Pigs**

*Hosted by: Dayna Burtness  
10 a.m.-Noon | Spring Grove, MN*

**Sept. 6: Field Day – Microgreens and Marketing to Build a Food System in Northwest Iowa**

*Hosted by: Calvin and Krissy Thiessen  
10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Spirit Lake, IA*

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### Friends of PFI events

**Aug. 14: Field Day – Hemp Farm Field Day Event**

*Hosted by: Women Land and Legacy, Four Winds Farm  
9 a.m.-Noon | Amana, IA*

**Aug. 18-19: Workshop - Organic Transition Academy**

*Hosted by: Center for Rural Affairs, NCAT, Organic Academy Roadshow  
10 a.m.-4 p.m. | Aurora, NE*

**Aug. 15: Field Day – Introduction to Beekeeping**

*Hosted by: SFA, Jadell Cavallin  
10 a.m.-Noon | Two Harbors, MN*

**Aug. 22: Workshop – Hard Cider Workshop**

*Hosted by: UW Madison Department of Food Science  
10 a.m.-3 p.m. | Verona, WI*

**Aug. 16: Webinar – Farmer Training Programs Overview**

*Hosted by: Rodale Institute*

**Aug 26: Webinar – A Year in the Life of a Poultry Producer**

[View more events on our events calendar](#)

## RESOURCES

*Check out these additional resources for beginning farmers*

### **Farm small, farm smart podcast: the profitable mini farm series**

Jodi Roebuck, of [Roebuck Farm](#), is hosting a podcast series about profitability in small-scale farming while staying true to his sustainable values. "You can't stay green while you're in the red," he says. Listen on [Spotify](#) or [Apple Podcasts](#).

### **Soul Fire Farm guide: "How Alive is My Soil?"**

This Soul Fire Farm guide provides details on in-field soil health measurement protocols with strategies for building soil health to call carbon back to the land. Follow the guide step by step to assess and remedy your soil health.

### **Online agroforestry courses from the Savannah Institute**

Savannah Institute's agroforestry courses focus on key tree crops and practices, marketing, land access and finances, agroecology and climate change. Each course features multimedia lessons with video and audio with all you need to dig deep into each subject. The self-paced courses can be taken individually or in sequence.

STAY CONNECTED WITH PFI



## Looking for more?

### **Rachel Burke**

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