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## Beginning Farmer NEWS

November, 2019

*Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.*

## Register TODAY: Beginning Farmer Retreat

### Are you looking to launch your own farm business?

Then now is the time to register for the upcoming

**Beginning Farmer Retreat**.

This annual event brings beginning farmers together to network, plan and discuss ways to improve their farms while helping to build a sense of community among this fast-growing farming demographic. You will learn how to start your business planning cycle and outline next steps to launch your farming business.



*"This retreat gave me confidence that I'm more prepared than I usually give myself credit for, and I gained new knowledge, especially from the farmer panel."*

*-Carly McAndrews  
2018 retreat attendee*

*"It not only generates excitement and enthusiasm about a farm or farm project, it develops a plan and you meet many people who are in the same boat you are in."*

This popular event is beneficial for beginning and aspiring farmers in all enterprises. In addition to creating your own farm plan, you will hear from other farmers about how they started their farming journey.

*Ben Rothman  
2018 retreat attendee*

**This retreat is only offered once a year and attendance is limited. Register before Thursday, December 5 to ensure your spot.**

Join us at the **Beginning Farmer Retreat**.  
December 13-14 at Oakwood Road  
Community Center in Ames, Iowa.

*"This is our second year and both  
have been very helpful in growing  
our business."*

**Register Today!**

## PFI Annual Conference



**Save the Date: January 16-18, 2020**

Reclaiming Resilience will include ample time to create and strengthen relationships with others. These connections are vital to creating a farming community where we work together for Iowa's common good. You will leave this conference armed with ideas about how to strengthen resiliency on your farm, and how to build an agricultural system that benefits farmers, rural communities and our natural resources.

**Click Here to Learn More**

## Check out these resources for beginning farmers

We have recently updated our collection of business, financial, production and technical assistance resources to help aspiring and beginning farmers further their business goals. **You can access them by clicking on the icons below.**

We will continue to build this list and add new resources as they are available. If you see any resources missing that you find helpful, please share them with us. You can send them to Greg Padgett at [greg@practicalfarmers.org](mailto:greg@practicalfarmers.org).



**BUSINESS PLANNING**



**FINANCIAL**



**LAND ACCESS**

### **DNR to offer leases to beginning farmers**

Beginning farmers have the opportunity to manage DNR land through the DNR's Agriculture Lease Program in 2020, in part to legislation passed in 2013. To participate in the beginning farmer program, the producer must be a permanent resident of Iowa, have appropriate skills and have a net worth of less than \$680,590.

### **Organic Farm for Sale near Decorah**

For sale; 34-acre multiple enterprise farm, homestead, equipment and livestock. The ground was recently transitioned to pasture, after 9 years of organic row crop. Includes a 30x70 high tunnel with irrigation, over a half-acre of vegetable garden and recently planted fruit trees. Check out **Find A Farmer** for details.

### **Perennial Farm Gathering**

Savannah Institute will be hosting this year's Perennial Farm Gathering on December 6th and 7th, 2019 at the Sinsinawa Mound Center near Dubuque, Iowa! This year's PFG will

feature keynote speaker Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquín (President and CEO of Regenerative Agriculture Alliance), panels and workshops with Midwest agroforestry experts, perennial food and beverage tastings, and the ever-popular 5-minute Nutshell Show & Tell talks.

## UPCOMING PFI EVENTS

**Nov. 19: Workshop - [Farm Transfer](#)**

5-8 p.m. | Red Oak

**Nov. 20: Field Day - [Cover Crops for All](#)**

12-3 p.m. | Rose Hill

**Dec. 3: Workshop - [Farm Transfer](#)**

5-8 p.m. | Decorah

**Dec. 10: Workshop - [Farm Transfer](#)**

5-8 p.m. | Cherokee

**Dec. 13-14: Workshop - [Beginning Farmer Retreat](#)**

Ames

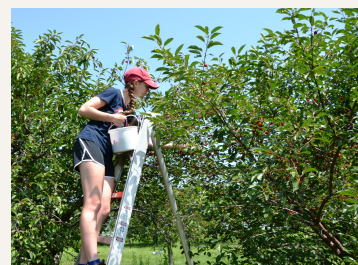
**Dec. 17: Workshop - [Farm Transfer](#)**

5-8 p.m. | Oxford

### Labor4Learning

Labor4Learning helps beginning farmers get paid on-the-job training with experienced farmers, and pays experienced farmers for their time and effort.

[Check out more and see open positions](#)



### Savings Incentive Program

Savings Incentive Program is a 2-year program that pairs beginning and aspiring farmers with experienced farmer mentors; provides targeted learning and peer networking opportunities; offers business planning support and guidance. All this while you save money that we match dollar for dollar, up to \$2,400, to use toward the purchase of a farm asset.

[Check out more information](#)



### Find A Farmer

Find A Farmer allows for a comfortable place to start anonymous conversations with land-seekers or landowners. Search for users in a particular area that fit your specifications and begin the discussion.

Find A Farmer is FREE and available for anyone with internet access! No membership is required.

[Check out more and see land available](#)



STAY CONNECTED



# Looking for more?

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