



LAND  
STEWARDSHIP  
PROJECT

# LAND STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

## FARM BEGINNINGS

### 2025-2026: SESSIONS 1-10

Course Textbook: Whole Farm Management: From Start-up to Sustainability, edited by Garry Stephenson, 2019, Storey Publishing

DATE & TIME	ONLINE OR IN PERSON*	SESSION
<b>Saturday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup></b> <b>10AM-4:30PM</b>	<b>IN PERSON</b>	<b>Session 1:</b> Introduction to Whole Farm Planning and Goal Setting <i>Chapter 1: Dream It – Strategic Planning</i> <b>Location:</b> Eastman Nature Center, 13351 Elm Creek Rd, Maple Grove, MN 55369
<b>Saturday, Dec 13<sup>th</sup></b> <b>10AM-4:30PM</b>	<b>IN PERSON</b>	<b>Session 2:</b> Assessing your Resources: What do you have and what do you need, Beginning Farmer Panel, Soil Health & Regenerative Practices <i>Chapter 2: Do It - Farm Infrastructure, Labor, and Energy</i> <i>Chapter 5: Grow It – Managing the Whole Farm Ecosystem</i> <b>Location:</b> Eastman Nature Center, 13351 Elm Creek Rd, Maple Grove, MN 55369
<b>Tuesday, Jan 6<sup>th</sup></b> <b>6-8PM</b>	<b>ONLINE</b>	<b>Session 3:</b> Marketing your farm products & services <i>Chapter 3: Sell It – Markets &amp; Marketing</i>
<b>Tuesday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup></b> <b>6-8PM</b>	<b>ONLINE</b>	<b>Session 4:</b> Financial Planning with a Holistic Lens - Personal, Household & Farm <i>Chapter 4: Business Management for the Farm</i>
<b>Saturday, Jan 31<sup>st</sup></b> <b>10AM-4:30PM</b>	<b>IN PERSON</b>	<b>Session 5:</b> Financial Planning with a Holistic Lens – Start-up costs & enterprise budgets, Farmer Wellbeing & Self Care <i>Chapter 4: Business Management for the Farm</i> <b>Location:</b> Eastman Nature Center, 13351 Elm Creek Rd, Maple Grove, MN 55369
<b>Tues, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup></b> <b>6-8PM</b>	<b>ONLINE</b>	<b>Session 6:</b> Risk Management - Legal Structure, Record Keeping & Insurance <i>Chapter 6: Keep it – Entrepreneurship, Family Business Dynamics, and Managing Risk</i>
<b>Tuesday, Feb 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>6-8PM</b>	<b>ONLINE</b>	<b>Session 7:</b> Connecting with Local Resources (FSA & NRCS, taxes)
<b>Dates &amp; Times 14<sup>th</sup> &amp; 16<sup>th</sup>?</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Optional Holistic Financial Planning Workshop</b> , tentatively one day in person, one day online.
<b>Saturday, Mar 7<sup>th</sup></b> <b>10am-4:30PM</b>	<b>IN PERSON</b>	<b>Session 8:</b> Land Access, Policy & Leadership <b>Location:</b> Eastman Nature Center, 13351 Elm Creek Rd, Maple Grove, MN 55369
<b>Tuesday, Mar 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>6-8PM</b>	<b>ONLINE</b>	<b>Session 9:</b> Participant Show & Tell
<b>Thursday, Mar 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>6-8PM</b>	<b>ONLINE</b>	<b>Session 10:</b> Participant Show & Tell

\*We strongly encourage in-person participation for these sessions. However, if meeting in person is not accessible for you, we will provide a virtual option via zoom or recording.

Evening sessions may be extended to 2 ½ hours pending farmer presenter availability.