Farm Conservation Communities

Preserving farmland and revitalizing rural PEI



"Restoring Community, Protecting the Land and Informing the Earth's Stewards"

www.ibspei.ca

Who Will Farm?

- 75% of farmers have no successor
- 95% of new farmers are small, diversified, direct marketing entrepreneurs
- Twice as many farmers over 65 as under 35 years old

8% are under 35; a drop of 46% since 1995

Who Will Farm?

- In 2006, PEI had 1700 farms a 7.9% decrease during the past five years. This is slightly higher than the 7.1% decrease at the national level.
- On Census Day, there were 517 fewer farms in Prince Edward Island compared to 1996.
- Over 600 million acres of N. American farmland will change hands in the next 20 years,
- Barriers to entry
 - Access to land
 - Access to capital and credit
 - Access to knowledge and technical assistance
 - Access to markets

Ten Best Green Jobs for the Next Decade



Illustration by Erika Schneider

#1 Farmers-There is a huge need for more farmers

Up to tens of millions of them.

- *Related careers*: Urban Gardener; Farmers Market and CSA Coordinator; Artisanal Cheese Makers; and other food producers.
- The rest of the list: Forester, Solar Power Installer, Energy Efficiency Builder, Wind Turbine Fabricator, Conservation Biologist, Green MBA and Entrepreneur, Recycler, Sustainability Systems Developer, Urban Planner

See: <u>www.fastcompany.com/articles/2009/01/best-green-jobs.html</u>

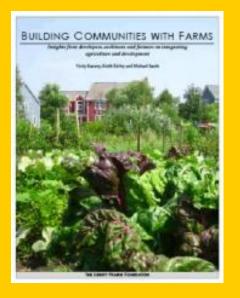
Farm Conservation Communities

- An evolution of Community Supported Agriculture where instead of bringing produce to the community, the community moves to the farm.
- Increases rural economic activity,
- Supports the new demographic of emerging farmers,
- Preserves pastoral, scenic landscape,
- Private money pays farmers for ongoing ecological goods and services,
- Responsive to unique circumstances and individual needs.





Eco-villages Permaculture Villages, Conservation Communities





Prairie Crossing ~ Portland Oregon, Serenbe ~ Atlanta, Georgia O.U.R. Eco-village ~ Vancouver Island, Crystal Waters ~ Brisbane, Australia

Organic Farms as Subdivision Amenities Ehe New York Eimesi June 30, 2009

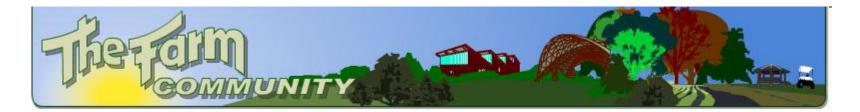
- "There are currently at least 200 projects that include agriculture as a key community component." Urban Land Institute.
- A 1,756-acre Idaho development realized a 61 percent premium on the sale of its sites, compared with similar parcels with no farm nearby; and claimed a \$2.8 million pretax profit, while keeping 1,000 acres open.
- Living with a farm can bring a buyer permanent views, wholesome activities for children, access to walking and riding trails and inclusion in an epicurean club.
- The design allows houses to back up to one of those natural amenities. Lots sell at a premium, up to three times what the raw lot is.

Farm Conservation Communities





















900-acre farm, plus galleries, a Inn and Restaurants















Stephanie Dowo John Mariana Sean McCormick Grea Newington Stephanie Robert



Sustainable living, farmland preservation, a live/work community











540 acre farm, ecotourism, agroforestry



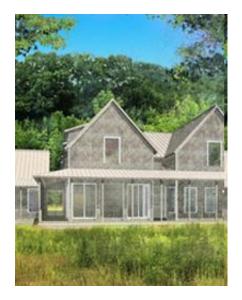






Deer Path Farm, Illinois

20 homesites; 140 acres permanently protected







O.U.R. Ecovillage, Vancouver Island 25 acres, four permanent homes, campground and education programs



Whole Village, Ontario

Ecovillage and 190 acre Biodynamic farm









Tryon Farm, Indiana

170-acre preserved farm, meadows, woods and ponds





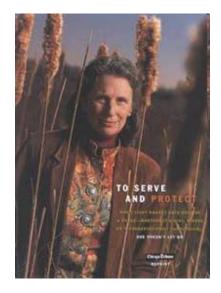


Prairie Crossing, Oregon

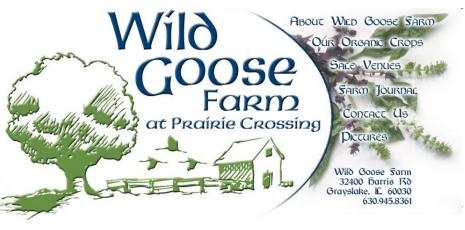
220-acre farm. Home prices of \$200,000 to nearly \$700,000.











Land Required for Food Sustainability for Prince Edward Island

Land required per person: 1/4 hectares* PEI Population: ~ 136,000 Total land required: 34,000 hectares* Current Production: 171,295 hectares**



** Source: Statistics Canada; 2006

Conservation Farm Markets

On Prince Edward Island,

- Population: 136,000
- Approximately 45,333 households
- Assume Weekly Food Expenditures = \$130/home /wk (\$5,893,290)
- Annual Is. Food Expenditures: >\$300 million/year

A 20% shift in local food purchases would infuse an additional \$60 million into the local economy. The multiplier effect would bring the economic impact to over \$ 500 million, annually.*

*Reference BALLE Nova Scotia



Land conservancies and, conservation land trusts, have been in existence since 1891.

In the last two decades they have begun to proliferate. They now form one of the fastest-growing and most successful conservation movements in history.



The goal of Farm Conservation Communities is to revitalize rural economies and preserve farmland forever.

Farmland Preservation Land for Future Generations





Wayne Caldwell

Stew Hilts Bronwynne Wilton



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Thank you. Phil Ferraro