



Hurricane Valley Whole Community Farm & Education Center

Cultivating Community seeks to partner with the Falmouth Land Trust to develop and operate Hurricane Valley Farm in service to the people of Falmouth/Greater Portland. Open to all, this production site will advance the Town & Trust's commitment to "agriculture, open space, wildlife habitat, scenic lands, & public recreation" and will ensure that the great majority of the property can be used for agricultural purposes in perpetuity.

The site poses challenges with respect to slope, soils (as good as one finds in Cumberland County, but in need of ongoing amendment), & water access, which we can work around/address. We envision that the site will incorporate:

- Incubator plots for New American & veteran farmers, who may sell to our food hub, which markets to our CSA & to schools, businesses, & pantries;
- Community garden spaces for >40 Falmouth residents/organizations;
- Growing site for Cultivating Community youth;
- Grazing/production site for interns in prospective Falmouth HS program;
- Summer camp for children;
- Orchard-based education;
- Trails linking with larger trail network;
- Local food eating events and land stewardship opportunities.

These activities all fall under community-based agriculture, which is by nature multi-generational & multiethnic, encompassing food production, training, & experiential education on the local, sustainable food system. To ensure that local people's needs are met in the specifics of the site plan, Cultivating Community & the Resilience Hub will convene a 3-4 month community-based participatory design process that will yield a Master Plan, drawings, & documentation.

Financial Model

Envisioned infrastructure

- wash-and-pack facility
- on-farm roads
- adaptation of barn
- space for educational events

Financial position

- Annual operating budget of \$1.3M
- Budget growth of 45% since 2013
- Funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (40%), foundations (45%), and donations (15%)

Revenue streams for farmers

- Fresh Start Farms food hub, current revenues \$100,000 annually
- Fresh Start Farms CSA program
- Farm stand on Route 100
- Retail markets

Revenue streams for Cultivating Community

- Farmer fees—land access, marketing, delivery
- Twilight Dinners
- Summer and Vacation Camps/ Nature-Based, Agriculture-Based Experiences for Children

Revenue streams for Falmouth Land Trust

- Rent from Cultivating Community
- Special events
- Revenue sharing from Cultivating Community earned income