Small Farm Start-up School
2021 Workshop Series

WHAT PAST PARTICIPANTS ARE SAYING

“The panels and tours were great. I liked learning from the experts but hearing the farmer’s real-life experiences was eye-opening.”

“This by far has been the most informative class of my adult learning experience and I’m going to be very sad to not have it on Wednesdays any further.”

“This class will help me avoid some expensive mistakes in the future.”

ABOUT SMALL FARMS PROGRAM

We understand the everyday heroics required to run a small farm. We can’t add more hours to the day, but we can make your day easier with practical, researched-based education.

Our programming efforts are aimed toward Minnesotans new to land ownership. Find more of our events and sign up for our email list at extension.umn.edu/smallfarms.
This workshop series will provide you with a solid background in all aspects of small farm operation and management. This information will help you to buy, start and grow your small farm. You will also develop a business plan and get feedback.

The eight-week course, offered by University of Minnesota Extension, begins with goal setting and individual property inventory, then addresses soil, plant, livestock, equipment and water basics. You’ll also have plenty of time for networking and questions.

For more information, please contact:

Rod Greder
Pine and Isanti County Extension
(320) 591-1662
gred0014@umn.edu

Pine City
Pine County Extension Office
(320) 591-1650

Cambridge
Isanti County Extension Office
(763) 689-8254

For more info go to:
z.umn.edu/SmallFarmSchool2021

To register online please go to:
z.umn.edu/SmallFarmSchool2021Registration

Call (320) 591-1662 for details

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THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL BE COVERED IN THIS EIGHT-WEEK PROGRAM (Subject to changes)

Taking Stock: What do I have and what do I want to do?? Develop short and long term goals, complete an inventory and property map. Introduction to Extension & our resources and programs. Start business plan.

What can I do with my property? Local & state regulations, and your goals. Production systems, marketing and economics for agricultural/rural enterprises. Farm transitions and land access.

Soil, Water, Air, Climate: Learn about soil structure, health, and fertility. Learn how to use integrated sustainable systems to be good stewards of all your natural resources. Regenerative and practical practices.

Buildings, Equipment, Crops, and Livestock: What do you want to produce? Learn about the buildings, equipment, power and supplies you’ll need.


Animal Care and Management: Animal husbandry; manure management; pasture management; zoning and permitting; Labor required and costs of livestock; Emphasis on poultry, sheep & goats, and cattle.

Tours and Panels: Visit small farm businesses to get ideas and inspiration. Q&A with farmer panel. Potential networking with suppliers, vendors, buyers, information providers.

NOTE: Topics are subject to change based on the needs of the participants. Some topics will be presented online.

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Small Farm Education
2021 REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION FEE:
$199 for the course (covers two people from one farm) due February 24th. Registration ends March 3, 2021.

Those farming in or planning to farm in Pine County are eligible for a $50 discount. Contact gred0014@umn.edu for details.

LATE FEE:
An additional $20 will be charged for registrations after Feb 24th.

Price includes the following:
- Registration for up to two people per farm
- Web access to all resources and course material
- Business plan guidance
- Farm tours/Farmer panels
- Networking with peers and experts
- Information that is evidence-based, unbiased

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
All in-person and online synchronous classes are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Most sessions will be online.
Pine County Courthouse, 635 Northridge Dr. NW, Pine City MN 55063 or Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave SW, Cambridge 55008

ONLINE REGISTRATION:
z.umn.edu/SmallFarmSchool2021Registration

For registration assistance, please contact Pine County Extension Office, 320-591-1662.

NOTE: This course requires a minimum of eight registrants to proceed and may be cancelled due to low enrollment.

Visit the UMN Small Farms website for additional resources for beginning farmers:
www.extension.umn.edu/smallfarms