Good people from across the state are working on a sustainable, equitable farm and food future. A future of good food, agricultural diversity, healthy lands and healthy people. Farmers and advocates of sustainable foodways/agriculture and food justice in urban and rural Minnesota have similar goals but lack opportunities to connect, share and learn from each other. **How can we work together to realize the change we want to see in the world?**

By bringing together urban and rural farmers and food justice advocates, we hope to create lasting relationships and facilitate the flow of ideas, resources and opportunities. We have a long journey ahead of us. **We have barriers both real and imagined to overcome.**

**Please join in as we continue our journey with Urban Ventures and Round River Farm:**

**Thursday April 29th -- 1:30 - 3:00**

**ZOOM Link:** https://umn.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcld-ugrTkvH9bgTGxX1Dko1kKPz8vv2x-q

**Urban Ventures** [https://urbanventures.org](https://urbanventures.org)

*The mission of the Urban Ventures Farm is to nurture a diverse group of young leaders through the meaningful work of growing and eating nutritious food.*

**Round River Farm** [www.round-river.com](http://www.round-river.com)

*Tucked into the northern forest and nestled in the lap of the Sawtooth Mountains along the North Shore of Lake Superior, Round River Farm is a solar and wind powered homestead founded on the ideal of sustainability, social justice and balance within the environment.*

Our friends at the [U of MN Extension Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships](https://extension.umn.edu/regional-partnerships) have ignited this idea. Their charge is rural, yet as our world evolves there is a realization that the rural and the urban do not live in isolation. -- [https://extension.umn.edu/regional-partnerships](https://extension.umn.edu/regional-partnerships)
We had a great first session on April 20th! -- Watch the recording here:


We learned about the incredible work and aspirations of these two very different parts of the food system. These are inspiring people doing the hard work of reimagining the food system, and they have much in common. We are excited to see where this will take us! We are making the road by walking it!

**Appetite for Change** [https://appetiteforchangemn.org](https://appetiteforchangemn.org)

We use food as a tool to build health, wealth, and social change in North Minneapolis. We bring people together to learn, cook, eat, and grow food, creating change that lasts.

**Prairie Drifter Farm** [https://prairiedrifterfarm.com](https://prairiedrifterfarm.com)

Prairie Drifter Farm is a diversified, organic vegetable farm serving communities in Central Minnesota through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) operation. As a farm, we are striving to raise food in environmentally sound ways while promoting social justice and being part of a thriving community that values the land and people.

The plan, as we all work together to beat back COVID-19, is to organize actual tours and exchanges of these farms and organizations later this summer or fall. As we share and learn from each other, and begin the process of building lasting relationships, we hope to build strong bridges across the urban-rural divide.

*We all do better when we all do better.* --Paul Wellstone

Questions? Contact Network coordinator **Karl Hakanson**, Agriculture & Natural Resources, U of MN Extension-Hennepin County (**khakanso@umn.edu**), **Connie Carlson** (**carl5114@umn.edu**) or **Greg Schweser** (**schwe233@umn.edu**), Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships.