

Create Your Farmland Search Plan | Farmland Search Directory

Enlist a combination of several individuals, groups, organizations, networks, and resources to be successful in your farmland search. These sources may help find those who can support you during this process. It may be helpful to make a list of likely leads!

- ☐ **Personal Network:** Family, friends, CSA members, fellow farmers

- ☐ **Farm Linking Programs:** Marbleseed's [Classifieds](#), Land Stewardship Project's [Farmland Clearinghouse](#), [Minnesota FarmLink](#), [Practical Farmers of Iowa](#), [Illinois Farmlink](#), [LandandFarm.com](#), [LandWatch.com](#)

- ☐ **Support Organizations:** The Farmland Access Hub is coordinated by Renewing the Countryside in collaboration with our Steering Committee composed of many supportive regional organizations, including land trusts, who may be able to help you. See the full list of organizations on the [Farmland Access Hub site partner page](#).

- ☐ **Farm Service Providers:** County Conservation Districts, Extension Educators, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Farm Service Agency (FSA) personnel, Farm Bureau, and state departments of agriculture have programs related to land acquisition (e.g., loans, easement programs, technical assistance), outreach such as newsletters, and networks of farmers.

- ☐ **Farming/Community Network:** Auctioneers, farm suppliers, veterinarians, crop consultants, custom operators, lenders...think widely! Facebook marketplace/community facebook groups, [Ag Solidarity Network](#), or physical bulletin boards also may be helpful.

- ☐ **Mapping and/or "Windshield" Survey:** Drive around or view maps of desirable areas to look for parcels that might work for your operation. Evaluate soils, topography, water, etc. Find out what you can about the property. Based on this, you might contact the landowner to see if they are

interested in selling or answering questions, or consult beacon.schneidercorp.com or plat maps from your local government office.

- ☐ **Real Estate Agents:** Ask around to find a realtor with experience in farm loans.

- ☐ **Public Lands:** Local municipalities (cities/townships) or neighborhood associations often know about available agricultural parcels. They may manage farmable open space and have procedures to solicit farming tenants. If possible, start by contacting your municipality's planning or community development department, otherwise the administrative department will be able to direct you to the correct point person. Contacts for Hennepin and Ramsey County are included in [this resource list](#).

- ☐ **Institutions and Religious Entities:** Colleges and universities, churches, retreat facilities, convents, and seminaries often have considerable land holdings. Some are interested in agriculture and land stewardship and make land available to farmers. [ISAIAH MN](#), [WI Faith Voices](#), [Interfaith Alliance of Iowa](#)

- ☐ **Partnering:** Partner with other farm seekers, particularly if a large property is under consideration. Check out the collective land access resources for more information.