Workshop: Preparing the Next Generation: Land Access Curricula

Presenters: Robin Kohanowich, Chuck Steiner, Jen Taylor

Two educational modules have been developed which explore how farmland is acquired and held by farm entrants, including the use of relatively new land tenure and transfer approaches to improve farm viability and land stewardship. Research conducted on farmland access and tenure, farm succession, and the relationship between tenure arrangements and the environment have led to the educational modules listed below.

Module I: Farmland Tenure and Acquisition

Topics

1. Understanding Farmland Tenure
2. Classic tenure: Ownership and Tenancy options
3. Non-traditional tenure Approaches and Partners
4. Entry and Succession: Entrant’s role in influencing Farmland Succession Arrangements

Module II: Tenancy and Landlord-Tenant Relations

Topics

1. Types and Benefits of Leasing
2. Lease terms (What’s in a lease?)
3. Incorporating Conservation Goals in leases
4. Communication and Negotiation Skills

The workshop will start with a brief presentation of the format, content, activities and case studies contained within each module topic. Workshop participants will then divide into small groups to assess key components of the modules and try out an activity or two. Groups will then reconvene to share their opinions and feedback with everyone. The workshop will provide an opportunity to learn about the educational modules and discuss their overall format and use. Information gathered will be used to modify the modules before they are distributed in final form (likely as digital media).