

# **Farm Conservation Communities**

Preserving farmland and revitalizing rural PEI



***"Restoring Community, Protecting the Land and  
Informing the Earth's Stewards"***

**[www.ibspei.ca](http://www.ibspei.ca)**

# Who Will Farm?

- 75% of farmers have no successor
- 95% of new farmers are small, diversified, direct marketing entrepreneurs
- Twice as many farmers over 65 as under 35 years old
- 8% are under 35; a drop of 46% since 1995



# Who Will Farm?

- In 2006, PEI had 1700 farms - a 7.9% decrease during the past five years. This is slightly higher than the 7.1% decrease at the national level.
- On Census Day, there were 517 fewer farms in Prince Edward Island compared to 1996.
- Over 600 million acres of N. American farmland will change hands in the next 20 years,
- Barriers to entry
  - Access to land
  - Access to capital and credit
  - Access to knowledge and technical assistance
  - Access to markets

# Ten Best Green Jobs for the Next Decade



Illustration by Erika Schneider

**#1 Farmers**-There is a huge need for more farmers  
Up to tens of millions of them.

*Related careers:* Urban Gardener; Farmers Market and CSA Coordinator; Artisanal Cheese Makers; and other food producers.

- **The rest of the list:** Forester, Solar Power Installer, Energy Efficiency Builder, Wind Turbine Fabricator, Conservation Biologist, Green MBA and Entrepreneur, Recycler, Sustainability Systems Developer, Urban Planner

See: [www.fastcompany.com/articles/2009/01/best-green-jobs.html](http://www.fastcompany.com/articles/2009/01/best-green-jobs.html)

# Farm Conservation Communities

- **An evolution of Community Supported Agriculture where instead of bringing produce to the community , the community moves to the farm.**
- **Increases rural economic activity,**
- **Supports the new demographic of emerging farmers,**
- **Preserves pastoral, scenic landscape,**
- **Private money pays farmers for on-going ecological goods and services,**
- **Responsive to unique circumstances and individual needs.**





# Eco-villages

## Permaculture Villages,

## Conservation Communities



Prairie Crossing ~ Portland Oregon, Serenbe ~ Atlanta, Georgia  
O.U.R. Eco-village ~ Vancouver Island, Crystal Waters ~ Brisbane, Australia

# Organic Farms as Subdivision Amenities

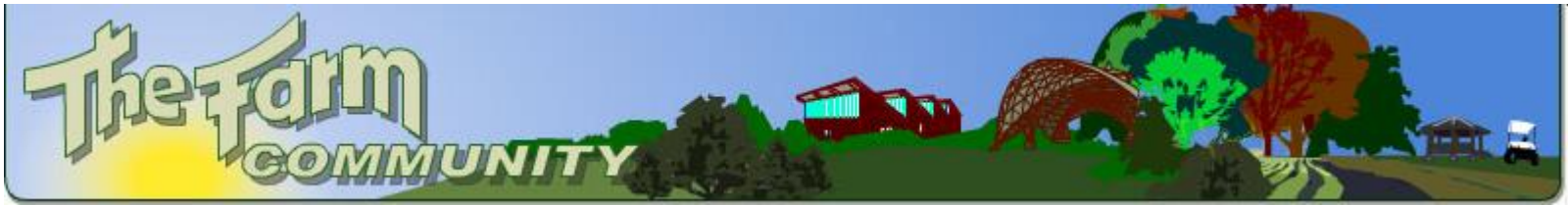
*The New York Times*

- “There are currently at least 200 projects that include agriculture as a key community component.” - Urban Land Institute.
- A 1,756-acre Idaho development realized a 61 percent premium on the sale of its sites, compared with similar parcels with no farm nearby; and claimed a \$2.8 million pretax profit, while keeping 1,000 acres open.
- Living with a farm can bring a buyer permanent views, wholesome activities for children, access to walking and riding trails and inclusion in an epicurean club.
- The design allows houses to back up to one of those natural amenities. Lots sell at a premium, up to three times what the raw lot is.

# Farm Conservation Communities

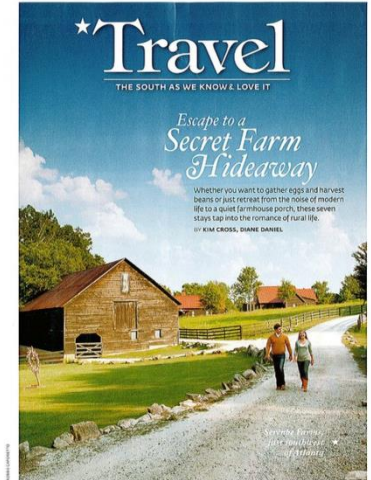






# Serenbe, Georgia

900-acre farm, plus galleries, a Inn and Restaurants



Atlanta Celebrates Photography  
Art Stroll  
@  
serenbe

Saturday, October 10 & Sunday, October 11  
hosted by the shops & galleries at serenbe.

celebrating  
the opening  
of the  
Serenbe  
Photography  
Center

Nicole Akstein  
Pinky Bass  
Chet Burgess  
William Bolling  
Brittany Collins  
Emily Cook  
Ruth Dusseault  
Stephanie Dowda  
Tomer Doweik  
Jeani Elbaum  
Walt Groover  
Billy Howard  
Frank Hunter  
Loran Hygema  
Otto Kitchens  
David Knox  
Kathryn Kolb  
Mark Mayo  
John Mariana  
Sean McCormick  
Darin Melton  
Tom Meyer  
Chris Mitt  
Greg Newington  
Billy Newman  
Laura Noel  
Davis O'Keefe  
Judy Pishner  
Brook Reynolds  
Stephanie Roberts  
Jeana Rosado  
JD Scott  
Sistagrophy  
StudioSwan  
Marilyn Surlani  
Mary Warren  
Edmund Waters  
Justin Weaver  
Tom Wilson



# Yarrow, BC

Sustainable living, farmland preservation,  
a live/work community



# Kakwa Ecovillage, BC

540 acre farm, ecotourism, agroforestry





## Deer Path Farm, Illinois

20 homesites; 140 acres permanently protected





# O.U.R. Ecovillage, Vancouver Island

25 acres, four permanent homes,  
campground and education programs



# Whole Village, Ontario

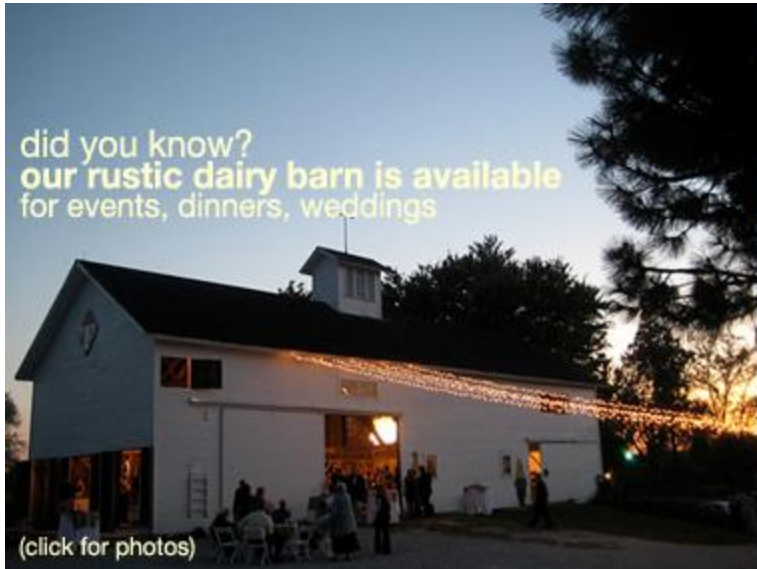
Ecovillage and 190 acre Biodynamic farm





# Tryon Farm, Indiana

170-acre preserved farm, meadows, woods and ponds



# Prairie Crossing, Oregon

220-acre farm. Home prices of \$200,000 to nearly \$700,000.



# Land Required for Food Sustainability for Prince Edward Island

Land required per person: 1/4 hectares\*

PEI Population: ~ 165,000

Total land required: 41,250 hectares\*

Current Production: 238,000 hectares\*\*



\* Source: Health Canada – Adapted from Nova Scotia Land Review Committee; 2010

\*\* Source: Statistics Canada; 2006



# Conservation Farm Markets

## On Prince Edward Island,

- Population: 165,000
- Approximately 64,000 households
- Assume Weekly Food Expenditures = \$200/home /wk (\$10,400/household/year)
- Annual Is. Food Expenditures: >\$665 million/year

A **20% shift in local food** purchases would infuse an additional **\$133 million** into the local economy. The **multiplier effect** would bring the economic impact to **over \$ 665 million, annually.\***

\*Reference BALLE Nova Scotia

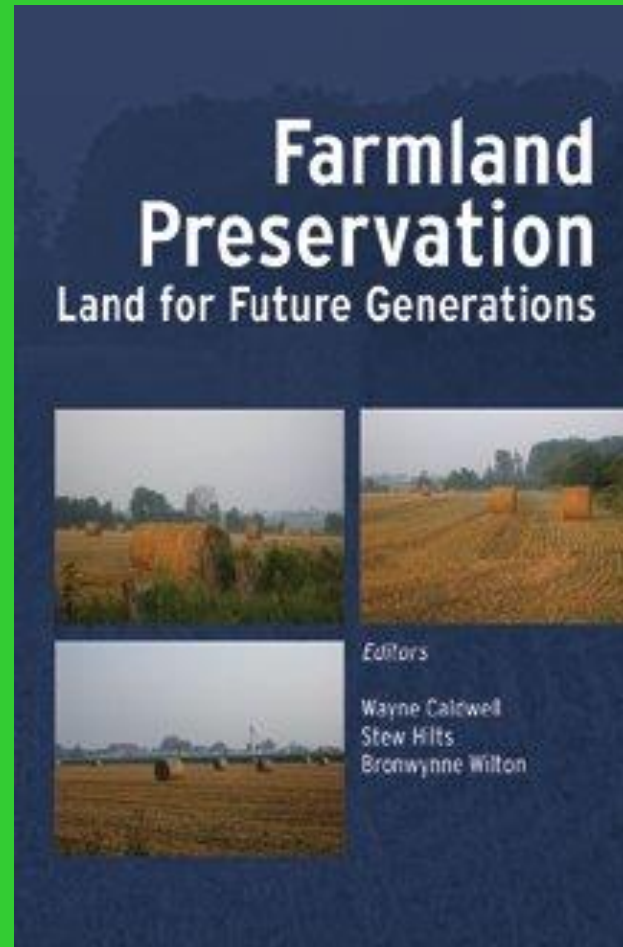


Land conservancies and, conservation land trusts, have been in existence since 1891.

In the last two decades they have begun to proliferate. They now form one of the fastest-growing and most successful conservation movements in history.



The goal of Farm  
Conservation  
Communities is to  
revitalize rural  
economies and  
preserve farmland  
forever.





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Thank you.  
Phil Ferraro