

Land Link Montgomery Helping farmers and farmland find each other



The #1 Challenge For New Farmers is Finding Land – Our Answer is Land Link Montgomery ...

The average age of farmers in the US is 57 and in Montgomery County, MD it is 59! The biggest challenge for the next generation of producers is the sky rocketing price of land. The cost of purchasing or leasing farmland presents real impediment to growing farms to feed our region's expanding population.

A strong local food system depends on expanding and adding farm businesses. Helping more farmers get "on the ground" benefits the health and wealth of the entire Region.

Land Link Montgomery seeks to "link" beginner and experienced farmers with available land and farms within Montgomery County, building on the strong farming tradition of the County's Ag Reserve. Landowners gain a steward for their land, aspiring or expanding farmers gain land to get started and our County gains new small businesses.

How it Works:

- Farmers and Landowners apply and pay a one time \$30 admin fee to support the program.
- Both Farmers and landowners write a listing that is posted anonymously on the Land Link site where anyone can browse the offerings.
- Interested parties get in touch through Land Link staff and meet to discuss shared goals. Land Link staff will help craft listings and make site visits to help decide what resources might be needed by a farming venture.
- When a farmer and landowner work out an agreement—we have a match!

Visit Us- Learn More mocolandlink.org landlink@mocoalliance.org

Success!

Land Link Montgomery has added 220 acres of new farm businesses— and counting!

We've matched:

- A goat farmer with a local farm based nonprofit
- South Mountain Creamery with space to grow feed corn
- A new farmer with land for 500 tomato and pepper plants
- An aspiring orchard farmer with land for 60 persimmon trees



Why list my land with Land Link?

There are as many reasons as there are landowners. Some landowners are unable to farm all their land and would like to see it used, some farmers have retired but would like to see their farms continue, and still others are looking for a business partnership. Most new farmers are looking to start or expand on small amounts of acreage — even as small as one acre.

Whatever the reason, listing land with Land Link is a way to directly support local agriculture and our local food system. Land Link staff is with you every step of the way in the process—offering site visits and interfacing with the Soil Conservation District to help you make the best match. We'd be happy to discuss the particulars of your property - landlink@mocoalliance.org