



LAND  
STEWARDSHIP  
PROJECT

# FARM BEGINNINGS®

Application 2012-2013

Name (Primary Contact): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph#: (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

May we call you at work? Yes or No

Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

Which class location you will be attending: River Falls, WI or Morris, MN?

How did you hear about Farm Beginnings (please mark box and list a specific source)?

Internet  Magazine  Newspaper  Conference/Event  Word of Mouth  Other

Specific Source in relation to above: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be applying for a scholarship? Yes or No

Do you have any special needs we should know of? \_\_\_\_\_

*The \$1,500 tuition fee covers up to TWO applicants who are farming partners on the same farm*

Name of Farming Partner-(see above): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph#: (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

**Each applicant please answer the following questions. If you need more space, attach additional sheets.**

Why are you interested in farming?

Provide a brief summary of the school(s) you have attended:

Provide a brief summary of your work experience(s):

Please list ALL agricultural experience you have had (include conferences, workshops, internships, employment, field days, farm tours, volunteer positions, etc...):

What are you currently doing?

What are your future farming goals:

1-5 years:

5-10 years:

How do you think Farm Beginnings can help you move toward your farming goals?

What do you see as your biggest obstacle in starting your own farm enterprise?

Which farming enterprises are you considering (**Rank your top 3 choices by marking #1, #2, #3**):

dairy \_\_\_ beef \_\_\_ sheep \_\_\_ goats \_\_\_ hogs \_\_\_ crops & hay \_\_\_ vegetables \_\_\_  
flowers \_\_\_ fruit \_\_\_ poultry \_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

Check the statement that best describes your access to land situation for your current or future farming enterprises:

I do not have access to land. \_\_\_\_\_

I have access to rented land. \_\_\_\_\_

I own land. \_\_\_\_\_

List something unique about yourself:

Please list any additional questions or considerations you have about the Farm Beginnings program?

# PERSONAL ASSESSMENT

Rate Your Farming and Business Skill Levels

No experience	Some Exposure	Competency
1	2	3

<b>KNOWLEDGE &amp; SKILLS</b>	<b>Rating (1, 2 or 3)</b>
<b>Production</b>	
Goal setting	
Acquiring land (e.g., rent, lease, purchase)	
Developing production, marketing & financial plans	
Maintaining and repairing tools & equipment	
Maintaining & repairing infrastructure	
Managing soil fertility	
Managing pests, weeds & diseases	
Managing pastures	
Feeding & watering animals	
Monitoring & treating animal health problems	
Managing manure	
Preparing a crop production plan	
Operating equipment & implements safely	
Seeding, planting & harvesting	
Post-harvest handling & storage	
<b>Financial Management</b>	
Setting up bookkeeping & record-keeping systems	
Record keeping (e.g., financial, production, sales)	
Preparing financial statements & tax forms	
Bookkeeping, paying bills & taxes	
Monitoring cash flow	
Managing debt	
Strategic planning	
Grant research and/or fundraising	
<b>Marketing</b>	
Market research	
Networking	
Developing promotional materials and advertising	
Proper communication with customers/buyers	
Selling farm products & services	
Web design and social networking	

# APPLICATION CHECKLIST

To streamline our application process, please refer to the following:

- **Farm Beginnings' Application Packets must be completed and sent to:**  
**Land Stewardship Project**  
**Attn: Karen Benson-Farm Beginnings®**  
**PO Box 130**  
**Lewiston, MN 55952**
- **Applications will only be accepted via the U.S. Postal Service (no electronic or faxed applications will be reviewed)**
- **Only complete Application Packets (see checklist below) will be reviewed**
- **A \$200 non-refundable deposit is required (please make check payable to Land Stewardship Project)**
- **The application deadline is August 1, 2012**

<b>Does your Application Packet Include:</b> (make a checkmark to verify)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Farm Beginnings Application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal Assessment for each Applicant
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$200 Deposit Check
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scholarship Application forms:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Statement of Need — <b>for each applicant</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 References — <b>for each applicant</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	2011 Tax Return — <b>for each applicant</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Net Worth Statement — <b>for each applicant</b>

***\*\*Please complete this checklist and include it with your application\*\****

**[www.landstewardshipproject.org](http://www.landstewardshipproject.org)**