



Farm Transition/Land Access/Beginning Farmer Resources

How do I gain access to farmland and farming opportunities in Virginia?

Existing programs in Virginia:

- *Virginia Farm Link Database*
 - **Description:** Part of the VA Farm Link Program administered by the VA Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, this online database contains a listing of available farmland in Virginia and is designed to link farm owners interested in exiting agriculture with those seeking farms and farm businesses.
 - **More info:** vafarmlink.org
- *Certified Farm Seekers Program*
 - **Description:** Part of the VA Farm Link Program, CFS provides individuals seeking farming opportunities with a method to demonstrate their farming commitment and vision to interested farm or farm business owners by developing a farm business plan and resume and demonstrating on-farm experience.
 - **More info:** <https://farmlink.va-vdacs.com/CertifiedFarmSeekerProgram.aspx>
- *Virginia Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coalition*
 - **Description:** The coalition's goal is to improve opportunities for beginning farmers and ranchers to establish and sustain viable agricultural operations and communities in Virginia. A "Whole Farm Planning" curriculum and worksheets are available to help beginning farmers evaluate goals and resources.
 - **More info:** <http://www.vabeginningfarmer.alce.vt.edu/>
- *Small Farm Outreach Program*
 - **Description:** The goal of the program is to encourage and assist limited-resource and socially-disadvantaged producers, veterans, and ranchers. It provides a wide range of outreach and technical assistance for production management, financial management, and marketing.
 - **More info:** <https://www.ext.vsu.edu/small-farm-outreach-program/>
- *Focusing on Land Transfer to Generation "Next"*
 - **Description:** Sponsored by VA Cooperative Extension and VA Department of Forestry, this 2-day workshop is designed to assist forest families in planning for transfer of land.
 - **More info:** <https://ext.vt.edu/natural-resources/legacy-planning/training.html>
- *Fauquier Farm Link*
 - **Description:** This is an online listing of farm buildings and available to rent in Fauquier County that also allows land seekers to post what they are looking for.
 - **More info:** <http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments-a-g/agricultural-development/fauquier-farm-link>

For information from the US Department of Agriculture, including resources for new farmers, women in agriculture, youth, and veterans, visit <https://newfarmers.usda.gov/>