

Farm Apprenticeship – Fall-Winter 2018-19

General Description: Apprenticeship on a small sustainable farm in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (verdantview.com). We prefer a 4-month commitment in order for the apprentice to become skilled with daily work. Along with farm work, apprenticeship includes management of educational tours, homesteading workshops (ice cream, cheese, soap-making), and a **book list** which will progress according to the interest and reading pace of the apprentice. (See suggested readings below.)

Work & Expectations: The apprentice is expected to work five days per week, roughly 7:30am to 5:30pm, with breaks for breakfast and lunch. Breakfast and lunch is enjoyed communally and provided by the farm. Responsibilities include feeding of calves, chickens, goats and other animals; opportunities to help with gardening, pasture management, construction, or mechanics, based upon the applicant's interests; management of farm tours and homesteading workshops; and helping with B&B hospitality (check-in guests, answer questions, etc.). Having one's own car is recommended for personal transportation.

Compensation: Apprentice will have opportunities to learn most aspects of the art and business of homestead farming. If living quarters are required, salary begins at \$800 / month. If no living quarters required, salary is \$1200 / month. Two home-cooked, communal meals on most days (breakfast and lunch), except Sundays. Small private living quarters with bath and kitchenette (stove, oven, sink and refrigerator/freezer) on basement level.

To Apply: Interested applicants, male or female, who are attentive, self-motivated, and bring a positive attitude are encouraged to send their resume to patrick@verdantview.com . After an initial phone call, an interview and/or work trial will be scheduled at the farm, so that both sides can make a better-informed decision.

Farm Description: Verdant View Farm is a 4th-generation homestead farm in Lancaster county Pennsylvania, which has cows, calves, steers, goats, chickens and other animals. The farm is 112 acres. We graze our cattle on 30-acres of pasture using rotational grazing practices, allow calves to drink from their mothers, and provide opportunities for guests to learn how to milk by hand. The farm business is operated by Elisa Fleming along with the support of her spouse Patrick Fleming. The farm has a thriving bed & breakfast, and has an educational mission in relation to sustainable, homestead farming practices—offering hour-long guided farm tours to the public and workshops on cheese-making, soap-making and ice-cream making. About 5,000 people visited us for tours and workshops last summer. The farm is located in the heart of Lancaster's Amish community, in Paradise Township, Pennsylvania.

Book list

Books selected and discussed according to the interests of the apprentice. Here are a few suggestions on sustainable agriculture, economics, and the meaning of farm work.

Agriculture & Food

- You Can Farm – Joel Salatin
- Salad Bar Beef – Joel Salatin
- Bringing it to the Table (non-fiction) – Wendell Berry
- That Distant Land (fiction) – Wendell Berry
- Letter to a Young Farmer – Gene Logsdon
- All Creatures Great and Small – James Herriot
- Omnivore's Dilemma – Michael Pollan

Economy and Localism

- Deep Economy – Bill McKibbin
- An Essay on the Restoration of Property – Hilaire Belloc
- Ecological Economics - Selected Essays of Herman Daly
- Small is Beautiful (selections) – E.F. Schumacher
- Home Economics – Wendell Berry
- Laudato si – Pope Francis

Meaning of (Farm) Work

- Rule of St. Benedict
- The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism – Max Weber
- Shop Class as Soulcraft – Matthew Crawford
- Leisure, the Basis of Culture – Josef Pieper

Contact Information

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