

SMALL FARM INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING WORKSHEET

VISUALIZE YOUR PLAN: What does your ideal farm look like in 5 years?

Draw a picture of your farm. Be as specific as possible, using the questions below to guide you:

- Physical Location: Total acreage of land vs. acreage in production; Geographic/municipal location; Geographic features (water, hills, forests, etc.)
- Growing Goals: What do you want to grow, how much of it, and how?
- Established vs. Needed Infrastructure: What infrastructure do you have now, and what do you need to add or modify? This includes driveways and pathways, fencing, utility hookups, buildings and growing structures, irrigation, storage, washing/packing, fencing etc.

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DESCRIBE YOUR PLAN: What does your ideal farm look like in 5 years?

Physical Location: Total land acreage vs. acreage in production; geographic location and features (forests, hills, pasture, etc.); what/who else is around you, topography and run-off; soil type and health, municipal location and zoning, access and distance to market/sales opportunities etc.

Production Goals: What do you want to grow (crops, orchard, agroforestry, livestock, commodity vs. specialty), how much of it, and how (in-ground, raised beds, high tunnel, conventional vs. organic, etc.)?

Established vs. Needed Infrastructure: List your current infrastructure and what you need to add or modify. This includes driveways and pathways, access to equipment, fencing, utility hookups, buildings, livestock shelters, growing structures, irrigation, storage, washing/packing, etc.

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What is your water source? City water, pond, or creek? Do you want to catch or retain water? How and where does water flow on your property? Is it safe for irrigation and/or post-harvest handling?

What is your electrical source(s) (city utilities, solar, wind, etc.), and how will each be used? What areas of your property need electricity, and how much do you anticipate using?

How do you plan on managing pest pressure (insect, animal, etc)? How will you keep things in or out (fencing, netting, high tunnel, low tunnel, etc.)?

List other tools, equipment and/or supplies you will need to run a successful business (e.g., a four-wheel tractor, front loader, two-wheel tractor, plow, tiller, silage tarp, hand tools, fertilizer, etc.).

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