New Hampshire Agrarian Commons
Farm Acquisition — Summary

Seeking funds to complete a regenerative farm transfer and investment in renewable energy solar installation and soil health improvements.

Agrarian Trust fundraising success will facilitate the transfer of 63 acre Normanton Farms in Litchfield, NH into the New Hampshire Agrarian Commons. Once held, the Agrarian Commons will convey a 99-year equitable and secure lease to the current farmer and support an apprenticeship and succession opportunity for the next generation of farmers.

The legacy of the current farm’s regenerative stewardship can be the foundation for the next generation and the preservation of agrarian culture centered in local community and good stewardship of the earth.

Bringing ownership of Normanton Farms into the New Hampshire Agrarian Commons supports:
- Farm viability and a sustainable business model
- Investment in farm and ecosystem regeneration, health, and stewardship
- Investment in renewable energy including a solar installation
- The passing down of generational knowledge now and into the future

A collaboration between:
Agrarian Trust, Monadnock Community Land Trust, Normanton Farms, and the New Hampshire Agrarian Commons
Normanton Farms is a pastured chicken, pastured pork, and 100% grass-fed beef farm producing 50 beef cows, 30,000 broiler chickens, and up to 100 hogs each year directly supporting 130 local families, community, and regional food system needs. The Monadnock Community Land Trust, current owner of the land, is moving forward to gift the 63 acres of farm and forest land along the Merrimack River into the New Hampshire Agrarian Commons to further preserve the land and farm and ensure the land is held for regenerative agriculture for generations to come. The land is currently protected by a NH Department of Agriculture held conservation easement, maintained in organic food production for over four decades, and located across from an Elementary School in a farm community located 10 minutes from Manchester, Nashua, and the airport.

Steve Normanton, current farmer at Normanton Farms, brings a lifetime of farming experience and deep commitment to regenerative practices to his work. Steve has been recognized as a Soil Health Champion by the National Association of Conservation Districts and 2014 Farmer Mentor of the Year from the Northeast Organic Farmers Association. Steve plans to retire in the next few years, and being part of the Agrarian Commons will support opportunities for farm apprenticeship and ensure that the legacy of land stewardship he helped create will be carried forward by future generations.

Agrarian Trust and the New Hampshire Agrarian Commons are seeking funds to complete the farm transfer, invest in a renewable solar energy installation, improve the soil, and preserve the land for generations to come.

The Agrarian Commons creates an equitable model that centers equity and decisions making locally, while simultaneously eliminating significant land barriers and supporting:

- Food and Land Security
- Ecological Stewardship
- Economic Viability
- Community Building
- Cultural Preservation
- Healing and Connection

FUNDING NEEDED: $47,000

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