

Groundswell Conservancy

“We protect special places, forever”

Established in 1983
South-central Wisconsin



GROUNDSWELL
CONSERVANCY

Our values:

- We want everyone to live in a world filled with green places where communities thrive
- We believe that land is essential for people's physical, emotional, and spiritual wellness
- If we don't protect undeveloped land now, it may be lost forever

Hold >90 conservation easements
Protected >13,000 acres



Equitable Access to Land

- Land Access
 - Land Tenure
 - Land Ownership
- Two Community Farms
- Pipeline in Progress



Two Community Farms

- New American farmers and farmers of color
- people who benefit from the therapeutic values of farming and gardening



Pasley's Swan Creek Farm

- 14 acres farm part of a 35 acres property



PEAT (kids)
FAIR (adults)







Westport Farm

-- 10 acres farm supporting ~10 Hmong subsistence and market growers, Therapy Garden (12 participants)



Westport Farm Plots 2019



Lifting Hearts Therapy Garden 2021 Fall Harvest Picnic





Lifting Hearts Therapy Garden 2022 Fall Harvest Picnic











Land Ownership

Current Issues:

- 90% of farmland is owned by non-farming landlord
- Within next 15 years = farmland transition
- Average age of White farmers = 57+
- Cost of Farmland (Average cost in Dane County = \$20K per acre)
- Most productive farmland = most attractive to developer

Land Ownership – Buy, Protect, Sell (BPS)

Buy – Land Trust Purchase Farm

Protect – Development Rights Removed

Sell – Agricultural Value

Renter

Technical Assistance/Partnership/Support

Land Owner

-BIPOC Farmer/Land Seekers (individuals and/or organizations)
-Underserved Farmers/Land Seekers

-Education
-Capital Access
-Land based resources
-Market Access

-Agricultural Conservation Easement
-Conservation Practices
-First right of refusal

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