

2018 Growing Farmers Core Skills Workshop Schedule

	Date	Time	Topics	Description
Workshop 1	<i>February 17, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Greenhouse 101	Managing Greenhouse environment and irrigation systems
			Germination Chambers and Hot beds	Get your plants started off in the right environment - learn to build a germ chamber on the cheap!
			Soil mixing and blocking	Soil blocking is a method of plant propagation that uses less plastic and produces a healthier transplant - see how it is done and practice your technique
Workshop 2	<i>February 24, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Farm Business Management	Recordkeeping, expense tracking, effective organizing
				Bookkeeping and invoicing
Workshop 3	<i>March 10, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Successional Crop Planning	Crop Planning 101
				Crop Planning Exercises
				Software to help you plan
Workshop 4	<i>March 24, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Market Identification Overview	
			CSA Programs	How to structure, plan, and market a CSA program on your farm
			Wholesale Marketing	Wholesale aggregator to share advice to succeed in wholesale markets
			Farmer's Market Success	Farmers Market manager will share tips for success at the market
Workshop 5	<i>April 14, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Managing soil health	Overview, importance, soil food web and agroecology, soil testing
				Who's in the soil?
				Using compost teas to enhance soil health
Workshop 6	<i>May 12, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Irrigation Design	Irrigation Principles
				Overhead irrigation design
				Drip Irrigation System design activities
				Drip irrigation installation - in-field demonstration
				Working with insects on your farm

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Workshop 7	<i>June 9, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Bug-Out at Prairie Pines!	
				Bug Safari!
Workshop 8	<i>July 14, 2018</i>	8 AM - 12 PM	Food Safety	Assessing and mitigating food safety risks
			Postharvest handling	In field demonstrations - how to appropriately handle produce after harvest
Workshop 9	<i>September 1, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Season Extension and Overwintering	Principles of season extension
				In-field demonstrations
Workshop 10	<i>October 20, 2018</i>	9 AM - 1 PM	Farmer Skills Assessment	Determine your next steps and future training
			Identifying your farm values	The first step in creating a business plan