



2017 Growing Farmers Workshop Agenda

Workshops are green, and optional events are in blue. We encourage participants to attend the optional events, but they are not a part of this series.

	Date	Topic	Description	Time
Workshop 1	January 14, 2017	Intros, Overview of classes	Class introductions and workshop series overview	
		Wholesale Marketing	Hear from area farmers about the different types of wholesale markets available to small scale farmers	9 – noon
		Farmers' markets and CSAs	Market Manager will share tips for farmers' market success, CSAs and their place in the market	1 – 4 pm
		Business Planning 101	Why business plan? Basic Structure, Tools for Completing, Review example plan	9 – noon
Workshop 2	January 21, 2017	Business Planning 101	Time to work on own business plans - complete sections on identifying values, history of farm and current situation	1-4 pm
Other Event	January 27th and 28th, 2017	Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Conference Columbus, NE nebsusag.org		
Workshop 3	February 4, 2017	Small Business Training	Recordkeeping, Important daily forms and effective organizing/prioritization, enterprise budgeting	9-noon
		Small Business Training	Business Finance and Bookkeeping exercises	1-4
END OF BUSINESS PLANNING SEGMENT - BEGIN FARM MANAGEMENT SEGMENT				
Workshop 4	February 11, 2017	Crop Planning	Crop Planning Exercises and creating your own crop plan	9 - noon
		Soil Biology	Microscope Demonstration and Activities, making compost and compost tea	1 - 4 pm
Workshop 5	February 18, 2017	Biological Agriculture	Overview, importance, soil food web and agroecology	9 – noon
		Farm and Field Management	Crop Families, Crop Types, Rotations, Fertility Management	1 – 4 pm
		Lancaster County Health Department Farmer's Market Vendor Meeting		

Other Event	February 25th, 2017			
Workshop 6	March 4, 2017	Season Extension	Learn about low-cost season extension	9 – 12 pm
		Irrigation	Learn the fundamentals of irrigation system design: will cover drip and overhead irrigation	1 – 4 pm
END CROP PLANNING SEGMENT - BEGIN FOOD SAFETY PLAN				
Workshop 7	March 11, 2017	Food Safety	Overview and farm assessment	9- noon
			Components of food safety plan and example plan review	1 - 4 pm
Workshop 8	March 18, 2017	Write Your own Food Safety Plan		9 – noon
		Legal Entities		1 - 4PM
END FOOD SAFETY PLAN SEGMENT - BEGIN FARM TECHNICAL VISITS				
Workshop 9	April 29, 2017	Incubator Farms		9 – noon
		Farm Tour	Bed prep with two wheel tractor, transplanting, direct seeding, laying drip irrigation	1 – 4 pm
Workshop 10	May 6, 2017	Grazing and Pasture Based Farming		9 – noon
		Farm Tour	Learn about electric fencing and pasture management	1 – 4 pm
Workshop 11	May 13, 2017	CSA Farm		9 – noon
		Farm Tour	Visit a local CSA farm and see the CSA packing in action	1 – 4 pm
Workshop 12	5/20/2017	Integrated Farm System - Organic, Biodynamic		10 a.m. - 2pm
		Farm Tour		