

## Farmland Commons Model Pathways of Engagement

There are many different ways for organizations and individuals to participate in the creation and operation of a Farmland Commons. Below is a summary of some of the ways nonprofits, other organizations and individuals may engage. More information about this model may be found here: <https://www.thefarmerslandtrust.org/about/process>.

1. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that co-founds/incorporates the 501(c)(25) Farmland Commons:
  - a. The primary role of these organizations is **Governance**. This means participating as part of the Board and organizational structure of Farmland Commons nonprofit to ensure democratic and community control. Specific responsibilities include:
    - i. **Title Holding**: Holding title to farm real estate.
    - ii. **Fiscal Responsibility**: Ensuring the Farmland Commons is adequately funded to sustain its operations and long-term goals.
    - iii. **Management Oversight**: Offering guidance and support to ensure the farm is operated in alignment with stated values and principles.
    - iv. **Farmer Relationship**: Establishing strong, supportive relationships with leaseholder farmers, ensuring they have secure, long-term, and affordable lease tenures.
  - b. **The Farmers Land Trust** may or may not be one of the incorporating nonprofit organizations, depending on the needs and all parties consideration and mutual agreement
2. As a Collaborator for the operations of the Farmland Commons and/or the future of the Farms involved:
  - a. The primary role of these organizations is **Support** by bringing forward varied forms of capital to support the Farmland Commons and/or the Farms, through:
    - i. **Partnership**

ii. Financial

iii. Relational

iv. Cultural

v. Social

vi. Wisdom

vii. Resource and network connections

3. As a leaseholder or sub-leaseholder or partner with leaseholder

a. The primary role of the leaseholder is **Active Agriculture Stewardship** in alignment with the values and goals of the Farmland Commons. Their focus is on:

i. **Practicing Biodynamic, Organic and/or Regenerative**

**Agriculture:** Implementing practices that promote biological soil health, water quality and ecosystem health.

ii. **Farming Adaptively:** Creating climate resilience through farming that adapts and evolves to market and community to ensure enterprise health and viability.

iii. **Community Centric Agriculture:** Fostering community connection to the land.