

# **Urban Teaching Farm Project**

March 2017

The Urban Teaching Farm (UTF) project is an initiative that proposes to create a full-time 32-week intensive, learn-to-farm program in the city of Fredericton. Our proposed site is the former Hayes Farm at 577 Hillcrest Drive in Devon.

By fostering new farmers capable of operating their own farms in a profitable, regenerative way, and expanding local food markets, farming is kept viable in our region. An urban teaching farm will demonstrate how fresh food, grown locally, can improve food security and make a difference in the health and well-being of our families, our communities, and our local economy.

"Regenerative organic agriculture improves the resources it uses, rather than destroying or depleting them. It is a holistic systems approach to agriculture that encourages continual on-farm innovation for environmental, social, economic, and spiritual well being." - *Rodale Institute*

## **Our Mission**

To empower individuals to become critical thinkers, problem solvers and change agents within the province by providing them with the skills, expertise and support needed to lead New Brunswick to a sustainable food economy through small-scale regenerative agriculture training.

## **Goals**

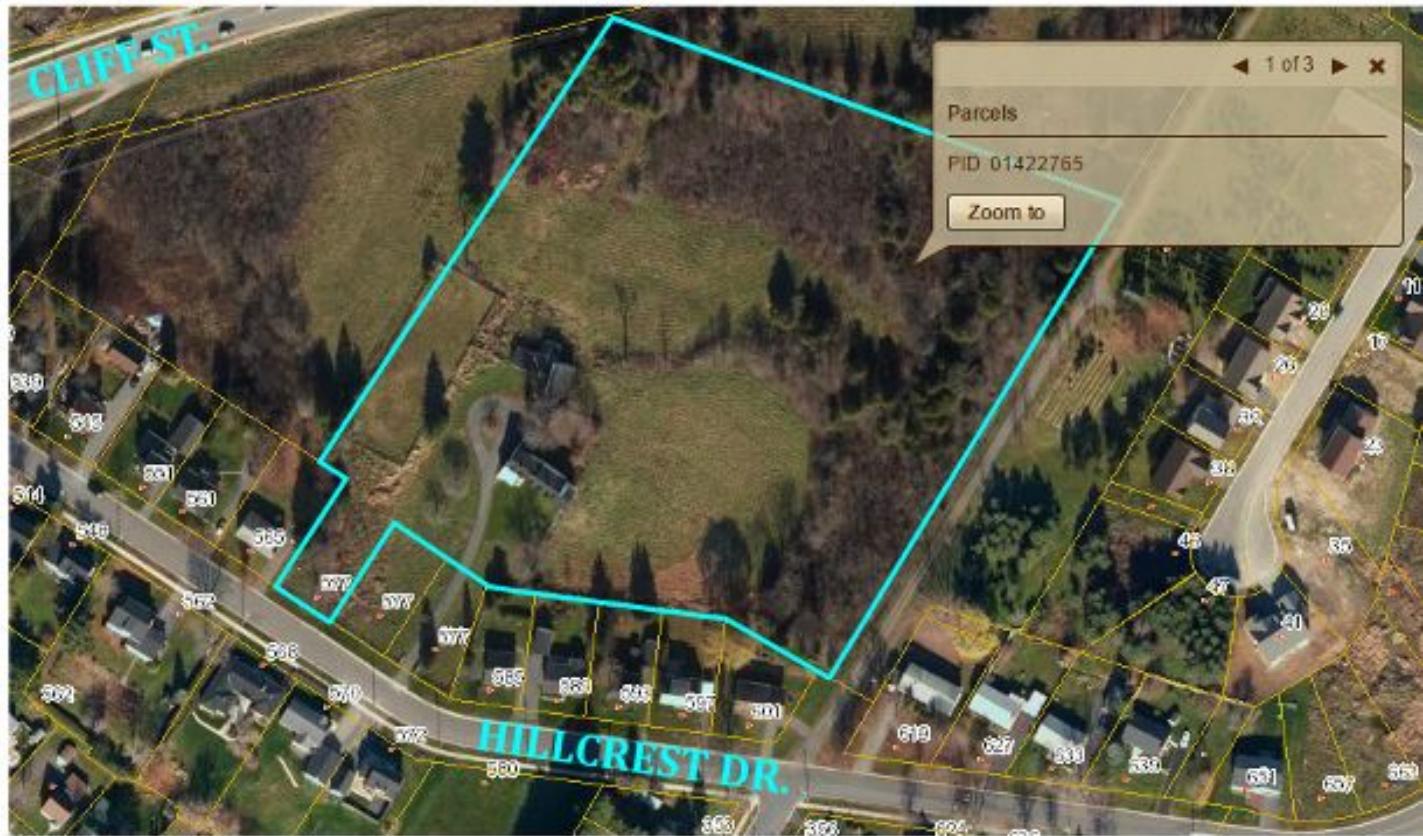
- Provide a comprehensive training program, land, infrastructure, marketing resources and other supports for new farmers to learn more about their chosen trade and jumpstart their careers
- Create a model of profitable and regenerative agricultural enterprises for new & existing farmers
- Be a focal point for building a strong local food system in our region
- Provide opportunities for residents to learn about local agriculture and food production systems
- Assist with linking new farmers to available farmland and support programs in our region

## **Points of Interest**

- Annual 32-week program run from March – November
- Human-scale operations mean no large, noisy, or polluting equipment
- Operations will begin after 7:30 am and end in the late afternoon through the week
- Occasional public workshops and tours may be held in the evenings and on weekends
- Vegetable production only, no plans for livestock
- Up to 12 students per year will graduate and be ready to join the agricultural workforce
- Students will run an on-farm vegetable stand, selling fresh produce to the public. Additional produce will be sold via Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) subscriptions and wholesale accounts with local restaurants and retailers

As this project has long-term goals, the UTF hopes to amend the zoning of the property for agricultural use, as well as amend the municipal plan to honour the heritage of the Hayes land by allowing it to operate as a teaching farm.

For more information, contact [hayesteachingfarm@gmail.com](mailto:hayesteachingfarm@gmail.com)



Urban Teaching Farm proposed location  
577 Hillcrest Drive, Fredericton, NB

