

Who is the Field School for?

Open to anyone who wants to learn about starting an agriculture-related business.

Especially seeking:

- **Veterans:** We have scholarships for 3 veterans.
- Those with one-year of experience producing for market.
- Those who still need to work full-time off the farm.
- Those ready to take their passion to the next level, ready to complete a business plan by the end of the program.
- Those historically underserved by government programs.

How do I register? Cost?

Register in advance for all 9 sessions: \$75.
Only 30 spaces available.

Register at:

Web: www.ARCD.org
Phone: 423-979-2581
Email: apprcd@gmail.com

Receive:

- + 9 classes taught by farmers and ag professionals
- + A network of peers and mentors, fun interactions over training and fellowship.
- + Handouts & resources at each session on up-to-date information and latest innovations.
- + One-on-one farm planning services.

Se Habla Español: Spanish translation available.

Sponsor the Field School



Your sponsorship is perfect for reaching farmers, farm-supporting clients, and food lovers with your information. And it shows your support for farmers who protect our land and water and serve our communities.

Given the average age of a farmer in our region is 60-years...who will grow our food and manage our lands 20 years from now?

Farming is not for everyone. But everyone needs Farmers. Your investment builds the next generation of motivated farmers.

Contact: (423)979-2581
apprcd@gmail.com
www.ARCD.org
3211 N. Roan St.
Johnson City, TN 37601



THE FIELD SCHOOL



An orientation to small scale farming in East Tennessee



Field School offerings will be led by **more than 20** mentor farmers and ag experts.

Say hello to a few of them:



Dana York - (Lead Facilitator and Curriculum Consultant) Dana returned home to her farm in TN after a 34-year career with the USDA. Having worked in the Chesapeake Bay watershed where nutrient management is lifeblood, her strength is coaching you to plow a straight row between cost-effective and conservation farming that leads to better soil, water quality, and profits. Her passion is growing more prepared young farmers in our region.



Adam Hopkins - As Area Farm Management Specialist with UT Extension out of Dandridge, Adam consults farmers on their farm financials. How many dollars could a tomato plant produce? How much do you pay yourself? Adam will take a friendly approach to financials and farming.



Mike Hubbs - As Soil Health expert for the TN Assoc. of Conservation Districts, Mike (retired from NRCS) is lord of the underworld, the not-so-mysterious realm of soil and the tried and true practices that will enliven your soils to a healthy state that grow better crops and require fewer inputs.



Chris Wilson - Owner of Clover Creek Sheep, Chris is known for her variety of marketing strategies for markets small and large. She is also known for her high-quality grass-finished meat, certified Animal Welfare. She has farmed a little bit of everything, but has been direct-marketing sheep for 25 years.



Melissa Rebholz - Farms full-time in Greeneville on River House Farm and Rural Resources, and sells a vast variety of high quality vegetables and wild harvested bounty through restaurants in Asheville, and direct to consumer through CSA, farmers market, and on-farm dinners. Also a trained chef, she apprenticed for 4 years in California on farms that were the original birthplace of "farm to table".

Field School Offerings '16-'17:

Monthly, 2nd Thursdays or 2nd Saturdays ~ Details at www.ARCDC.org

Nov 10: Your Farm Vision

The 1st session: start with your mission & values; hear from Tamara McNaughton on farm planning, and other farmers on their farm plans. *Jonesborough, 6:00-9:00PM*

Jan 12: Farming Financially

Calculate a true cost of farming, break-even costs and financial planning, good record keeping, with UT's Adam Hopkins; plus FSA grant & loans. *Jonesborough,*

Apr 8: Good crop management: Pests & Weeds

How to manage pests/weeds via Conventional and Organic practices, and growing for various markets at River House Farm. *FARM TOUR* 9:00AM-1:00PM

July 13: Orchardry and PYO

At Buffalo Trail PYO Orchard learn about tree & berry cultivation and general customer sales. *FARM TOUR* 6:00pm-9:00pm

Dec 10: Season Extension Year-Round Crop Planning

Learn how to plan for growing through the seasons; tour High Tunnels. Develop a sample year-round production calendar. *FARM TOUR*, 9:00AM-1:00PM

Feb 9: Markets for You

Learn from farmers how they grow/produce for different markets and sell: CSAs, farmers markets, restaurants, retail, and Appalachian Harvest wholesale distribution. *Jonesborough 6:00-9:00PM*

May 11: Marketing, Handling

How do market to customers? Minimize liability through quality assurance production methods & proper packaging, with the Boone Street Market, ASAP, and TDA. *Mountain Harvest Kitchen, UNICOI 6:00-9:00PM*

Aug 10: Your Farm Presentation

Present your farm plan at "Graduation" Potluck celebration; present one piece of your business or a brief overview of your integrated production/marketing/financial vision. 6:00PM.

*More workshops TBA Including:
April 29th Soil Health and Post-Harvest Handling with Patricia Tripp & Mike Hubbs*

Mar 11: Livestock Rotation on Small Farms

Introduction to smaller-scale grazing, with diversity and rotating. At Dotson Farm with Tabitha Dotson & Mike McElroy. *FARM TOUR* 9:00AM-1:00PM

June 8: Agritourism & Advocacy

Learn from the Myers Farm family and area ag leaders how to be an effective advocate for your farm, with the public, and for the ag economy. *FARM TOUR* 6:00PM—9:00PM

