

A photograph of three young girls with long blonde hair, smiling and holding brown chickens. They are outdoors in a rural setting with a wooden building and bare trees in the background. The text 'Community Farming on Solid Ground' is overlaid in large yellow font.

Community Farming on Solid Ground

SUSTAINABLE LIVING HUB SEMINAR
FALL 2023

First, a brief update

from the Sustainable Living Hub



Sustainable Living Hub



OHIO
UNIVERSITY



The Campus is the Classroom

Teaching and Learning Outdoors at OU!

Identified several locations for pilot outdoor learning spaces

Collaborating with partners in University Planning, OIT, and CLTA

Exploring funding options

Developing an open access (and possibly open source) Teaching and Learning Outdoors guide



A photograph of three young girls with long blonde hair, smiling and holding brown chickens. They are outdoors on a gravel path, with a wooden building and bare trees in the background. The text 'Community Farming on Solid Ground' is overlaid in large yellow font.

Community Farming on Solid Ground

SUSTAINABLE LIVING HUB SEMINAR
FALL 2023

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- BACKGROUND
- PHILOSOPHY
- COMMUNITY FARMING PROJECT
- THE FUTURE OF SOLID GROUND FARM



WESTON LOMBARD

- CO-FOUNDER, SOLID GROUND SCHOOL AND RISING APPALACHIA
- STEWARD, SOLID GROUND FARM
- AGROECOLOGY INSTRUCTOR, HOCKING COLLEGE
- COMMUNITY ORGANIZER
- OHIO UNIVERSITY ALUMNUS



OUR HOME:

SOLID GROUND FARM, LLC

A WORKING FARM AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND EXPLORATION CENTER, PROMOTING ENGAGEMENT WITH THE LAND AND RECONNECTION WITH NATURE THROUGH CREATIVE PLAY AND HANDS-ON PARTICIPATION.

WITH A MISSION: TO DEVELOP, SHARE, AND CELEBRATE **SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS** TO HOME AND COMMUNITY-SCALE FOOD PRODUCTION, AND TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THROUGH CREATIVE **NATURAL RESOURCE** MANAGEMENT, THE LAND, AS ALWAYS, IS THE BASIS OF OUR HEALTH AND WEALTH.

WWW.SOLIDGROUNDFARM.COM



SOLID GROUND FARM, LLC

PIONEERING APPALACHIAN AGROFORESTRY AND AGROECOLOGY

WE BELIEVE THAT SMALL, DIVERSIFIED PERENNIAL-BASED COMMUNITY FARMS WILL BE THE FOUNDATION FOR AN EMERGING ECOLOGICALLY ROOTED REGIONAL ECONOMY.

SOLID GROUND FARM SERVES AS A REGIONAL GERMPLASM AND RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION, AND TRAINING SITE, PROVING THE EFFICACY OF NATIVE AND NATURALIZING TREE CROPS AND SHARING LESSONS LEARNED THROUGH WORKSHOPS, PUBLICATIONS, AND SPECIAL EVENTS.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE SOLUTIONS FOR APPALACHIA



OUR PROGRAMS... RISING APPALACHIA (RAW CAMP)

A NON-PROFIT SUMMER CAMP AND YOUTH EDUCATION PROVIDER
EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH PLAY AND NATURE EXPLORATION

RISING APPALACHIAN WARRIORS SUMMER CAMP **ENGAGES YOUTH**
IN THE OUTDOORS THROUGH HANDS-ON PROJECTS, CREATIVE PLAY, AND
PARTICIPATION WITH NATURE, FOSTERING CONNECTION TO THE
ENVIRONMENT, GROWING BONDS BETWEEN PEERS, AND INSPIRING THE
CONFIDENCE NEEDED TO NAVIGATE OUR WORLD AS ENGAGED
INHABITANTS OF APPALACHIA.

WWW.RISINGAPPALACHIA.ORG



SOLID GROUND SCHOOL

A NON-PROFIT PLACE-BASED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PIONEERING
PROGRESSIVE, NATURE-BASED EDUCATION IN SOUTHEAST OHIO

IMMERSIVE PROJECT-DRIVEN CURRICULUM, HONORING THE INHERENT CURIOSITY,
DRIVE AND CAPABILITY OF CHILDREN. SOLID GROUND SCHOOL ENCOURAGES
CHILDREN TO FIND AND DEVELOP THEIR INNATE TALENTS, NURTURE THEIR
CREATIVITY, AND LEARN TO **WORK TOGETHER** TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF A
CHANGING WORLD.

OFFERING PRE-K TO 6TH GRADE ALTERNATIVES TO PUBLIC SCHOOL,
WWW.SOLIDGROUNDSCHOOL.COM



UNDERLYING PHILOSOPHY

FOUNDATIONAL ASSUMPTIONS

-WE ARE NOT ONLY SEPARATE, DISCONNECTED INDIVIDUALS
COMPETING FOR PERSONAL SUCCESS, BUT ARE ALSO A COMPLEX
SERIES OF RELATIONSHIPS CONNECTED TO AND RELIANT UPON
ALL OF EXISTENCE

-OUR GREATEST CAPACITY IS TO CHOOSE WHERE WE DIRECT OUR
ATTENTION AND ENERGY.



PHILOSOPHY IN ACTION: COMMUNITY FARMING



MADE POSSIBLE BY A USDA SARE FARMER RANCHER GRANT



THE PARTICIPANTS



THE GARDEN



HARVESTING, PROCESSING, SHARING



GROWING COMMUNITY



LESSONS LEARNED



FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS..

GROWING CULTURE AND ECONOMY FROM APPALACHIAN FIELDS AND FORESTS

BUILDING A NEW, REPLICABLE MODEL FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ROOTED IN RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR NATURAL RESOURCES AND BASED ON;

- LONGTERM PLANNING AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- COMMUNITY DRIVEN BUSINESS INCUBATION DESIGNED TO REMOVE BARRIERS
TO BUSINESS SUCCESS BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO LAND, MENTORS, TOOLS, AND
MARKETS
- US FOREST SERVICE FUNEDED MENTOR/APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM BEGINNING
MARCH 2024





THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ENERGY AND ATTENTION

CONTACT WESTON LOMBARD FOR MORE INFORMATION.
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