

**WANTED:** farm property to create a model Organic farm in Illinois, Indiana or SW Michigan.

The project will include:

- permanent farmland preservation
- large-scale organic food production
- wildlife conservation
- significant reforestation
- a global internship program
- alternative energy and building projects

**My experience:**

I have been growing Organic vegetables for 39 years. Currently, I have established markets in Chicago and Indianapolis and an 800-member hybrid CSA in the Chicago area. Training new farmers is an especially important part of farming for me. I've hosted numerous interns from across the US and abroad. I designed and operated a highly successful leaf-composting program for the Village of Mount Prospect, IL. I have over 20 years of contracting experience building, rehabing and dismantling agricultural, industrial and residential buildings with major emphasis on alternative construction, recycling and energy conservation. I was responsible for building one of the first full roof-top (+/-5,000 sq.ft.) greenhouses in Chicago. In the past 8 years, I have planted more than 250,000 trees.

**The property I seek should meet the following criteria:**

- maximum 4 hour drive to Chicago and Indianapolis - longer growing season is preferred.
- minimum 75 acres (larger is better)
- fertile soils or easily accessible to large volumes of recyclable soil building materials, e.g. leaves, etc.
- little potential for chemical drift or run-off contamination.
- peaceful, aesthetically pleasing environment -good-quality surface water (stream, pond, springs, etc.) is a plus.
- very low, or no, flood potential
- certifiable acreage is preferred but I am willing to transition an exceptional property.
- buildings are desirable but not essential -minimum 5 year lease, reasonable rent with option to purchase, or ag easement with guaranteed farmland preservation.

**Contact:**

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