

WORKING FARMS FUND

Summer 2022 Update



Building on our successful first year, the Working Farms Fund continued to grow in the first half of 2022, securing three additional farms in metro-Atlanta and expanding the program to metro-Chicago!

Why the Working Farms Fund Matters

- Creates a patient pathway to affordable land ownership and builds wealth for a diverse community of next generation farmers
- Breaks down traditional barriers to capital and business support for diverse farmer businesses ready to scale
- Accelerates on farm innovation and adoption of sustainable agricultural practices
- Permanently conserves farmland at risk of being lost to development
- Grows a more resilient, just, and healthier local food system

BY THE NUMBERS

Working Farms Fund 2021-2022

8
FARMS

705
ACRES
SECURED

33
FARMERS
SUPPORTED

\$5.9M
IN LAND VALUE
SECURED

\$100K
INVESTED DIRECTLY IN
ON-FARM INFRASTRUCTURE

75% OF FARM BUSINESSES ARE
MINORITY / IMMIGRANT /
WOMAN-OWNED

3 INSTITUTIONAL MARKET PARTNERS
BUYING FARM PRODUCTS



FARMS TO DATE



Love is Love Cooperative Farm // 68 Acres

Produce: vegetables, fruits, flowers



Global Growers Network // 22 Acres

Produce: vegetables, fruits



Atlanta Harvest / Local Lands // 90 acres

Livestock: cattle, goats, sheep, chickens



Goodwin Family Farm // 175 acres

Livestock: cattle



Little Fox Farm // 52 acres

Produce: vegetables, fruits, flowers



Pride Road // 70 acres

Produce: hibiscus, livestock, pastured poultry



Snapfinger Farm // 197 acres

Produce: vegetables, fruit



Garlic eScape // 30 acres

Produce: garlic, onions, herbs

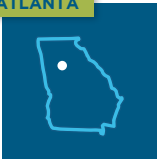
RECENT FARM ACQUISITIONS

Welcome, farmers!



SNAPPINGER FARM // 197 ACRES

ATLANTA



In June, The Conservation Fund acquired a critical farm property outside of Atlanta in Newton County, Georgia. Rahul Anand, owner and operator of Snapfinger Farm will begin production on the 197-acre farm in the fall of 2022. Rahul envisions the farm expansion as a place for new ideas and building a healthy community by meeting the high demand for fresh, local food through sustainable farm growth.



GARLIC ESCAPE // 30 ACRES

CHICAGO



In July, The Conservation Fund purchased our first farm in the Chicago-metro area! The new 30-acre site provides a critical on-ramp to farm ownership for Silvia Abel-Caines, who owns and operates Garlic eEscape, a vertically integrated farm growing a variety of bulbs, plants, and herbs. Silvia has spent more than 30 years working in the agricultural sector, with 15 years of experience in certified organic farming practices. In addition to expanded production space, the new property will also host on-farm classes, events, and trainings for the food and farming community.



“ Growing healthy foods close to where people live has become a reality for us. We’re excited about being the first Working Farms Fund farm in metro Chicago — and we’re looking forward to seeing other farmers with our same aspirations partake in this great program.”

— Silvia Abel-Caines, co-owner of Garlic eEscape



GROWING THE WORKING FARMS FUND

New Locations:



New Partners:



PARTNER SPOTLIGHT – THE COMMON MARKET

The Common Market is a mission-driven distributor of sustainable, local farm foods. Through a collaborative partnership, The Common Market is helping our farmers connect to new markets by providing access to a wide variety of wholesale and retail customers and connecting them with institutions and communities throughout the Southeast.

IN THE NEWS

Working Farms Fund Press Highlights

THE PHILADELPHIA CITIZEN



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
FOR GREATER ATLANTA



NBC-6 CHICAGO



NEW PROGRAM SUPPORT

Growing Our Capacity to Support Our Farmers



Billy Mitchell
Farms Fund Farm Manager



Elizabeth Renfroe
Farms Fund Office Manager



Anyssa Fernandez,
Farms Fund Intern,
Emory University

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Chicago:

Emy Brawley
ebrawley@conservationfund.org

Aimee Collins
acollins@conservationfund.org

Atlanta:

Stacy Funderburke
sfunderburke@conservationfund.org

Krisztian Varsa
kvarsa@conservationfund.org

We cannot do this work alone! The unique Working Farms Fund model relies on strong partnerships. We welcome inquiries from investors, funders, procurement and market partners, and other collaborators.

THE
CONSERVATION FUND

conservationfund.org