



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Farmers Union to host Women Caring for the Land workshops

CHIPPEWA FALLS – Wisconsin Farmers Union will host three Women Caring for the Land workshops around the state Aug. 23-25. The free workshops, held in partnership with the Women, Food and Agriculture Network, are geared toward women farmers or landowners who are interested in learning more about conservation and networking with other farm women in their region.

Each event will be from 9am to 3pm and will include a morning learning circle, followed by an afternoon field trip to an area farm. Locations include:

- Aug. 23, The Hungry Turtle, 110 Keller Ave. N., Amery; field trip to Cylon Rolling Acres, Deer Park. See how Leslie Svacina is building her herd of Boer-Kiko cross meat goats and improving her pastures using rotational grazing. She also is raising dairy buck kids for meat on pasture. Leslie will share how she's developed her grazing system for goats, including putting in new perimeter fence, using portable electric fence, seasonal water line, pasture shelters and livestock guardian animals.
- Aug. 24, The Ridge Bar & Grill, 623 Main St., Ridgeway; field trip to Cherrie Nolden's farm, Dodgeville. Cherrie uses pastured pigs and meat goats for brush control on her diversified farm, which is also home to a draft horse herd, pastured poultry, livestock protection dogs and dairy goats. Cherrie, who is currently pursuing her PhD at UW-Madison, has been conducting grazing and browsing research and will share how her production practices affect soil health. She will also demonstrate the ease of using electric netting fencing for rotational multi-species grazing.
- Aug. 25, Brattset Family Farm, N2437 Brattset Lane, Jefferson. Three generations of women farmers care for the land on this 290-acre diversified farm, which is home to a grass-fed beef herd and small dairy herd. Conservation highlights will include learning about a conservation easement on the farm, their rotational grazing system, silviculture planting of fruit and nut trees, Conservation Reserve Program prairie, honeybee hives and ongoing warm season pasture experiments. (Note: The morning session will also be on the farm.)

Registration, coffee and resource sharing will begin at 8:30am. Lunch will be provided. The afternoon field trips will allow participants to observe conservation practices in action. Please wear appropriate footwear.

Nearly half the farmland in the Midwest is currently owned or co-owned by women. Women Caring for the Land is facilitated by women conservationists and offers a peer-to-peer, informal discussion to allow women landowners to talk about their individual farm management goals.

Please RSVP by noon on Friday, Aug. 19 to Deb Jakubek at [djakubek@wisconsinfarmersunion.com](mailto:djakubek@wisconsinfarmersunion.com) or 715-590-2130. For more information about this program, visit [www.womencaringfortheland.org](http://www.womencaringfortheland.org).

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