

# **LAND LINK MONTANA**

## **Landowner Application Form**

Thank you for your interest in Land Link Montana. This questionnaire is the first step to finding a compatible match for your individual situation. The information will be shared with others who are in the Land Link program. If you have any questions about this application, our procedures, or if you need further assistance, please contact Paul Hubbard, Program Manager (phone: 406-543-0542, or email: pfhubbard@gmail.com).

### **PROGRAM PROCEDURES**

#### **Application: Gathering Information**

1. Farm/ranch seekers and landowners complete a Land Link Montana application. Fill out the application on-line at [www.landlinkmontana.org](http://www.landlinkmontana.org). Or, mail a completed paper application to: Community Food & Agriculture Coalition, 127 N. Higgins Ave, Suite 305, Missoula, MT 59801, ATTN: Land Link Montana.
2. A one-time fee of \$30 is required to cover application processing costs. If you apply on-line, the fee is \$20, as it saves us time. Make checks payable to the Community Food & Agriculture Coalition, or pay with a credit card on-line.

#### **Disseminating Information**

3. Once we receive your application and payment, a summary of your information will be posted on the website for other Land Link Montana members. As a member, you will be able to view these on-line listings and request additional information about any other Land Link Montana member. Listings DO NOT include contact information. Upon request, we will send you the summarized listings in the mail.

#### **Exploring Potential Matches**

4. Land Link Montana staff will contact you to further discuss your goals and situation in exploring potential matches. If possible, we will schedule a time to visit with you at your farm or ranch.
5. If you identify a farm or ranch seeker listing that looks like a potential match, contact Paul Hubbard with the listing number. We will then give you more information about the requested seekers and can discuss your options further. We can also mail you copies of their questionnaires with contact information.
6. Once identified, contacting farm and ranch seekers is your responsibility.
7. Updating the information on your application is up to you. No renewal fee is required.

#### **Establishing a Viable Match**

8. If a link is made, we have consultants and legal assistance to inform the farm/ranch transfer process. All decisions will be made by the landowner and seeker.

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Applicant's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated role on the farm/ranch: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Applicant/Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated role on the farm/ranch: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children: \_\_\_\_\_ Children's ages: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION II: AGRICULTURAL ASSETS**

1. The land is currently:

 Privately owned       Business owned       Partnership owned

2. Is the land currently being farmed?

 Yes ...      If yes, what percent? \_\_\_\_\_ %

 No.

3. Location: County \_\_\_\_\_ Township \_\_\_\_\_

4. Please identify and break down your acreage in the categories below.

a. Total farm/ranch size: \_\_\_\_\_ acres.

b. Total tillable acres: \_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Total irrigated acres: \_\_\_\_\_ .

d. Total acres in pasture: \_\_\_\_\_ .

5. What portion of the land is available to a farm or ranch seeker? Feel free to describe in your own words.

a. \_\_\_\_\_ tillable acres.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ irrigable acres.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ acres in pasture.

6. Please describe the soils that are available to a farm or ranch seeker—such as the soil type, drainage, texture (sandy, clay, loam, etc.), nutrient levels, soil organic matter, etc.

7. Please check the types of agricultural activities the land has accommodated in the past. Check all that apply. Feel free to describe further in your own words below.

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef         | <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cow-calf     | <input type="checkbox"/> Milking             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finishing    | <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement heifers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep        | <input type="checkbox"/> Grain               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feeder lambs | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finish       | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Trees     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hogs         | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Fruits         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feeder pigs  | <input type="checkbox"/> Berries             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finish       | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery/Ornamental  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry      | <input type="checkbox"/> Vineyard            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goats        | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hay & Forage | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____        |

8. What farming/ranching practices have been used on the land? Check all that apply and feel free to elaborate below.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conventional tillage | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated pest management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum tillage      | <input type="checkbox"/> Organic                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No-till              | <input type="checkbox"/> Rotational grazing              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip crop           | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide/herbicide application |   |

9. Based on previous harvests, please estimate the productivity of your tillable land per crop and acre below. You can leave this question blank, if it's not applicable.

- a. Crop: \_\_\_\_\_, Yield/acre: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Crop: \_\_\_\_\_, Yield/acre: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Crop: \_\_\_\_\_, Yield/acre: \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Crop: \_\_\_\_\_, Yield/acre: \_\_\_\_\_



**SECTION III: TRANSITION**

15. Please check all the transition arrangements you would consider.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Short-term Lease (1-5 years)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Enter into a working partnership with a farm or ranch seeker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term Lease (5+ years)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Owner-financed sale (contract)                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lease with option to buy   | <input type="checkbox"/> Outright sale (with individual and/or bank financing)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Share-crop   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employ seeker with gradual transfer of responsibility and farm assets over time. |   |

a. What type(s) of transition arrangement is most appealing to you?

b. Are there any transition arrangements that you would like to learn more about?

16. Would you be willing to mentor or advise the entering farmer or rancher for the first year or two? Feel free to elaborate below.

- Yes.             No.             I'd like to learn more about this option.

17. If you were to lease the property what would you expect to ask for compensation?

- a. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per acre.  
b. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total per year.  
c. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

18. Within what timeframe could you be ready to enable a farm or ranch seeker to begin working your land?

- 1-6 Months             6-12 Months             12-18 Months

19. Are you currently living on the farm or ranch?

- Yes             No

If yes, please describe whether you intend to remain on the land.

20. Are you currently farming or ranching the land?

- Yes       No

If yes, please describe whether you plan to continue farming or ranching part of the land.

21. Please check all the types of agricultural activities you would allow on your land.

Feel free to describe further in your own words below.

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef         | <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy              |
| <input type="radio"/> Cow-calf        | <input type="radio"/> Milking               |
| <input type="radio"/> Finishing       | <input type="radio"/> Replacement heifers   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep        | <input type="checkbox"/> Grain              |
| <input type="radio"/> Feeder lambs    | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable          |
| <input type="radio"/> Finish          | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Trees    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hogs         | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree Fruits        |
| <input type="radio"/> Feeder pigs     | <input type="checkbox"/> Berries            |
| <input type="radio"/> Finish          | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery/Ornamental |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry      | <input type="checkbox"/> Vineyard           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goats        | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hay & Forage | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____       |

22. What farming/ranching practices would you allow on your land? Check all that apply and feel free to elaborate below.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conventional tillage | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated pest management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum tillage      | <input type="checkbox"/> Organic                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No-till              | <input type="checkbox"/> Rotational grazing              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip crop           | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide/herbicide application |   |

24. Please list any agricultural activities or management practices you would NOT permit on your land.

**SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

23. Please summarize your long-term goals regarding your land?

24. Do you have an estate plan completed?

- Yes      If yes, when was it last updated? \_\_\_\_\_  
 No

25. What are your expectations from a Land Link Montana match?

26. Is there anything else about you, your land, or your goals that you would like a potential match to know?

27. What kind of additional training/information would help you with the transfer process? Please check all that apply and feel free to elaborate below.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax management/planning              | <input type="checkbox"/> Communication skills                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financing options (loans, etc.)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Conflict resolution                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement planning                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business management                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Goal setting                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing (local market connections) | <input type="checkbox"/> Decision making                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Production                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Specializations (organic, sustainable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial management                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                           |

28. How did you learn about Land Link Montana?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet       | <input type="checkbox"/> Extension     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brochure/flier | <input type="checkbox"/> Word-of-mouth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**SECTION V: REFERENCES & RELEASES**

18. Please list 3 references. At least one reference must be a former employer, co-worker, or business partner. Please do not list relatives.

A. Name:	Phone #:	Relationship:
B. Name:	Phone #:	Relationship:
C. Name:	Phone #:	Relationship:

21. Would you be willing to be contacted by the media regarding your involvement with Land Link Montana?

Yes                       No                       Maybe, check back with me.

22. By signing below, I certify the following:

- I understand that Land Link Montana’s function is to gather and distribute information. It does not guarantee the accuracy of the information collected, the distribution of the information collected, or that Land Link participants will find a compatible match that leads toward a legal agreement.
- The foregoing statements made by me are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith for the purpose of participating in the Land Link Program.
- I give Land Link Montana permission to release my name, address, phone number and any other information provided in this questionnaire to persons who are interested in discussing a possible business arrangement with me.

**Applicant signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form with a \$30 check to:**  
 Community Food & Agriculture Coalition  
 127 N. Higgins Ave., Suite 305  
 Missoula, MT 59801  
 ATTN: Land Link Montana

**Questions? Please contact Paul Hubbard.**  
 Call: 406-543-0542, or Email: pfhubbard@gmail.com