

LAND LINK MONTANA
Farm/Ranch Seeker 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. 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 in person.
5. If you identify a landowner listing that looks like a potential match, contact Paul Hubbard with the listing number. We will then give you more information about the requested landowners and can discuss your options further. We can also mail you copies of their questionnaires with contact information.
6. Once identified, contacting landowners 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 and facilitate the farm/ranch transfer process. All decisions will be made by the landowner and seeker.

SECTION II: AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

5. Check all the types of farming operations in which you are interested.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <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: _____ |

Please elaborate on the type(s) of agricultural operation you plan on running. Your brief explanation of 100 words or less will be included in the summarized listings.

6. Please indicate which locations or areas you would consider for your agricultural operation. Note: Land Link Montana is initially being piloted in Lake, Missoula & Ravalli Counties, but we may hear of other opportunities.

Counties:

Any towns or regions in particular?

7. Please identify the number of acres you would consider for your operation.

Tillable Acres:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 40-100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-40 | <input type="checkbox"/> 100+ |

Acreage in Pasture:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20-100 | <input type="checkbox"/> 200-500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 100-200 | <input type="checkbox"/> 500+ |

8. What are your needs in terms of machinery and equipment? Please be as specific as possible.

9. What farming practices do you plan on using? 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 | |

SECTION III: TRANSITION

10. What assets do you bring to a Land Link Montana match? Check all that apply and feel free to elaborate below. Note: You do not need to volunteer information that feels private, but it may be an important factor in finding an appropriate match.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Labor | <input type="checkbox"/> Machinery: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital: \$ _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Off-farm employment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock: number: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family assistance | breed: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Partner contribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

11. Within what timeframe could you be ready to become part of a farming operation?

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

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Short-term Lease (1-5 years) | <input type="checkbox"/> Outright purchase (with own/bank financing) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term Lease (5+ years) | <input type="checkbox"/> Work as an employee with gradual transfer of responsibility and farm assets over time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lease with option to buy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Share-crop | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enter into a working partnership with landowner | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owner-financed purchase | |

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

SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

13. Please describe your housing needs.

14. Please briefly describe what you want your farm/ranch business to look like in the next 1-5 years?

15. What do you want your farm/ranch business to look like in the next 5 or more years?

16. Is there anything else about you, your operation, or agricultural aspirations that you would like a potential match to know?

16. What kind of additional training/information would help you in your farm/ranch or 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: _____ |

17. 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