

# Agroecology Summit 2007

*A Discussion on the Increasing Competition for Land Use Across Our Rural Landscape and Its Impacts on the Future of Farming*



Willow Lake Farm  
Windom, Minnesota  
Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Registration begins at 7:30 am

Join us at the Willow Lake Farm near Windom, Minnesota for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Agroecology Summit! Enjoy a day filled with expert panel discussions on the increasing competition for land use across our rural landscape, casual group discussions on the future of farming, as well as afternoon farm tours and field trips. See the program agenda below for more details.

Bring your hiking shoes, your best ideas, your most constructive criticism, and your greatest optimism to the Willow Lake Farm for a day of brainstorming and conversation in a pleasant agricultural setting!



**For more information or to register:**

**Please contact the us:**

**Sara Hanson**

at (507) 830-1040 or [director@nhlgpa.org](mailto:director@nhlgpa.org) or  
Tony Thompson at [salix@rconnect.com](mailto:salix@rconnect.com)

**This is a FREE EVENT but space is limited,  
so to guarantee a place and meal please  
REGISTER by Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>!!**



Exhibit space is available to hang posters and set up displays  
(Bring your own table). If you plan to exhibit, please let us know.

Sponsored by the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy and the Willow Lake Farm

# Agroecology Summit Program

*Program and panelists subject to change*

7:30 – Registration and casual breakfast

8:30 – Introduction to ‘place’ and participants – Tony Thompson, Willow Lake Farm

8:45 – Competition for land use; Growing demands upon the landscape – Amy Stratton, IATP

1. Energy Panel

- a. Klay Walinga – Fairland Management Company
- b. Dave Easler -- POET Energy
- c. David Benson – Organic Farmer & Southwest Minnesota Renewable Energy Board

2. Agronomy Panel

- a. Steve Commerford – Crop Consultant
- b. Research Agronomist (invited)
- c. Matt Gohr – Local Farmer

3. Ecological Function Panel

- a. Research Ecologist (invited)
- b. Jason Garms – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
- c. Anna Claussen – Landscape Architect

4. Recreation Panel

- a. Gregg Pattison – United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- b. Sara Hanson – Willow Lake Farm
- c. Lisa Mueller – Dakota County, MN & Organic Farmer

11:00 – Open Space Discussion – Panelists will help to facilitate small groups in addressing the question: “How will we meet the demands of the people and ecology of the future?”

12:00 – Lunch

1:00 – Reveal *epiphanies* from Open Space Discussions

1:30 – Walking tour of the Willow Lake Farm (Wear comfortable shoes & bring sun protection.)  
See cover-cropping experiments, variations in tillage systems, wetland and prairie restoration projects, farm equipment demonstrations, and more.

2:30 – Optional tours of Poet ethanol plant, nearby wind farm, and/or local prairie remnant.

*Please note that tours are subject to change.*

## Directions to the Willow Lake Farm: (Mapquest: 93532 520th Avenue, Windom, MN 56101)

**From Windom:** Travel south out of Windom for .5 miles to MN Hwy 71 south to Jackson (I-90). Turn left onto Hwy 71 and travel under the railroad tracks and 2 miles further to County roads 79 and 36. Turn left (east) onto County road 36 (930<sup>th</sup> Street) and travel east for 2 miles to 520th Avenue/McKinney Drive. You then turn left (north) at 520<sup>th</sup> Avenue and travel .7 miles to find the Willow Lake Farm on your right (east).

**From Jackson and Interstate 90:** Travel north nine miles on State Highway 71, at which point the highway bears northwest. Continue two more miles on Hwy 71. After passing two small lakes, take the first right-hand turn onto a gravel township road and drive straight north for two and two-thirds miles. Turn right into the Willow Lake Farm. If you go too far you will dead end in Fish Lake. Turn around, backtrack 200 yards and turn left.

**More questions?** Please contact Sara Hanson at 507.830.1040 -or- Tony Thompson at 507.830.0767 Thanks!