



## Why a project directed at women landowners?

USDA figures show that nearly half of Iowa's farmland is now owned or co-owned by women. A growing number of women are principal operators; the number of women inheriting farmland also is on the rise.

The research conducted by Women, Food and Agriculture Network (WFAN) and others over the past decade has shown that women as a group care deeply about the health and environmental integrity of their land, air and water. They want to leave their communities in better shape than they found them for the generations to come. They want to keep their family farms in production, and help new families begin careers in farming.

This project is one step in bringing women landowners in eastern Iowa together to learn conservation and resource management techniques, learn tools for negotiating the implementation of these techniques on their land with their tenants, and network with one another about the common challenges they face and the interests they share as women landowners.

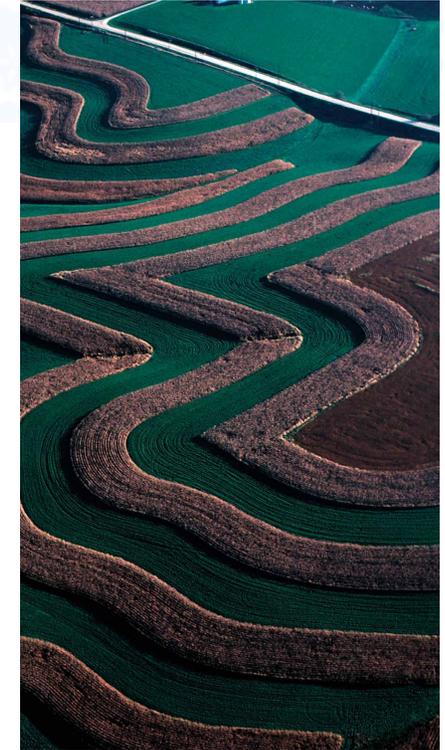
For more information about this project, contact Laura Krouse at [laura@abbehills.com](mailto:laura@abbehills.com) or 319.895.6924, or WFAN executive director Leigh Adcock at [leigh@wfan.org](mailto:leigh@wfan.org), 515.460-2477.

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# WOMEN CARING FOR THE LAND

a FREE conservation education program for women landowners in Jones, Johnson and Linn Counties



**If you are a farm partner, owner-operator or inheritor of any size farm, come and learn about:**

- conservation and management techniques you can use to enhance your farm's resources
- flood prevention techniques
- state and federal conservation programs
- how to discuss conservation with your tenant
- tour area farms to view conservation in action

# WOMEN CARING FOR THE LAND



## Facilitator Laura Krouse

Laura Krouse is a Mt. Vernon farmer who received the 2007 Spencer Award for Sustainable Agriculture from the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University. She has been a Linn Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner for nearly 20 years.

## Project Sponsors

Women Caring For the Land is a project of Women, Food and Agriculture Network, in partnership with USDA–Natural Resource Conservation Service, with funding from the McKnight Foundation.

For information, contact Laura Krouse at [laura@abbehills.com](mailto:laura@abbehills.com) or 319.895.6924, or WFAN executive director Leigh Adcock at [leigh@wfan.org](mailto:leigh@wfan.org), 515.460.2477.

## What Will I Learn?

- Meet your district conservationist and learn about programs and people available to help you with your conservation concerns
- See sustainable soil conservation and water quality practices in the field
- Hear from a good tenant about what kinds of conservation concerns he shares with you
- Practice ways to discuss your conservation concerns with your tenant
- Share ideas with other women landowners about solutions to conservation and sustainability challenges

## Introductory Meeting Schedule (choose location in your county)

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, Feb. 17	10 a.m.	Marion Library, 1095 6th Ave.
Wednesday, Feb. 18	1:30 p.m.	Anamosa Library, 600 E. 1st St.
Thursday, Feb. 19	1:30 p.m.	Johnson County Extension Office, 4265 Oak Crest Hill Rd SE, Iowa City

A few weeks after the three introductory meetings, we will conduct three field days to visit area farms that are already implementing some of the conservation and resource management techniques that we have discussed in the meetings.

**If you are interested in participating but are unable to attend the introductory meeting in your county, please feel free to come to a neighboring county meeting or call Laura at 319.895.6924 to let her know you are interested. That way you will be invited to the early spring field days and closing meeting. Please invite other women you think would be interested!**



## Who Should Participate?

- ✓ Any woman who owns or manages farmland
- ✓ Any woman who wants to learn more about soil conservation and water quality practices and how they might work on her farm
- ✓ Any woman concerned about the sustainability of agriculture

