

SAVING AMERICA'S WORKING LANDS

A National Conference Hosted by American Farmland Trust

FAIRMONT-DALLAS HOTEL, DALLAS, TEXAS | APRIL 23-25, 2025

Schedule At-A-Glance

ALL EVENTS ARE INCLUDED WITH A FULL CONFERENCE TICKET.

Wednesday, April 23	Thursday, April 24	Friday, April 25
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Pre-conference field trips (requires additional fee)	7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. Community Breakfast	7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. Community Breakfast
	8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Plenary Session	8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m. Plenary Session
1:00 p.m.-5 p.m. Pre-conference workshop (Free)	10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Conference sessions	
	12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Community Lunch	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Conference Sessions
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Welcome Reception	1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Conference Sessions	
	7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Movie Screening	12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Community Lunch and NALN Birthday Party



Log-in to the conference app using this QR code

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES FOR THEIR SUPPORT

USDA-NRCS, J.P. Wiser's, Blue Wave, Texas Land Trust Council, Texas Agricultural Land Trust, Grow North Texas, California Rangeland Trust, Fortress Microgrid

SESSION TRACKS

1 It's Not Farmland Without Farmers: Agricultural Viability and Planning for Agriculture	2 Changing Hands: Land Transfer, Access, and Affordability	3 Managing Working Lands for Environmental Resiliency & Economic Sustainability	4 Forever Working Lands: All About Agricultural Conservation Easements
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Wednesday, April 23

1:00–5:00	Pre-Conference Workshop: Promoting Soil Health with Working Lands Protection Boot Camp (Parisian)
10:00–5:00	Field Trip I: Improving the Resilience of Urban and Small Acreage Farms Offsite
10:00–5:00	Field Trip II: Stewardship in Action: 77 Ranch Tour Offsite
6:00–8:00	Welcome Reception (Rooftop Terrace) Food and cash bar provided

Thursday, April 24

7:30–8:30	Community Breakfast (International)
8:30–10:00	Opening Plenary (International) John Piotti, Chad Ellis, Sarah Fulton-Smith
10:30–12:00	Conference Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Planning for an Enduring Ag Landscape (Far East) Sam Smidt, Julia Freedgood, Kelsey Johnson 2 Confronting the Affordability Challenge (Oak) Mike Ghia, Alison Volk, Krisztian Varsa, Hilary Aten 3 Agrivoltaics: Opportunities and Challenges for Agriculture (Parisian) Brendan Boepple, Jesse Robertson-Dubois, Dave Specca, Tim Fink 4 Agricultural Conservation Easements 101 (Continental) Ben Kurtzman, Kelly Langdon, Jen Dempsey, Michael Delbar
12:00–1:30	Community Lunch (International)
1:30–3:00	Conference Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Retaining Farmland by Supporting Farm and Ranch Viability (Far East) Jimmy Kroon, Melissa Adams, David Anderson 2 Scaffolding to Support Farm Transfer & Succession (Oak Room) Addie Candib, Mike Ghia, Liya Schwartzman 3 Stacking Conservation Outcomes (Parisian) Andy James; Doug Wolfgang; Michelle Perez, PhD 4 Making the Case for PACE (Continental) Andy Seidl, Julia Freedgood, Barry Lonik
3:30–5:00	Conference Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Combatting Conversion: Three Case Studies (Far East) Billy Van Pelt, Lisa Specca, Shanna Alterton-Bauer 2 Public and Private Capital in Land Access and Ownership (Oak Room) Tammy Nebola, Brett Melone, David Mancera 3 Evolving Conditions and Landscapes: Strategies for Land and Water Adaptation (Parisian) Ann Hayden, Nancy McBrady, Stacy Cibula 4 Conservation Tax Credit: A Primer (Continental) Brendan Boepple, Mike Strugar
7:30–9:00	Movie Screening: “You Just Can’t See Them from the Road” (International) Snacks and cash bar provided

Friday, April 25

7:30–8:00	Community Breakfast (International)
8:00–9:15	Closing Plenary (International) Lesli Allison, Jenny Lester Moffitt, Justin Wiethorn, Ben Gordon
9:30–11:00	Conference Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Planning for Agriculture: Putting All the Pieces Together (Far East Room) Janice Hill, Lisa Specca, Sabrina Torres 2 State Policies to Support Access & Transfer (Oak Room) Marie O’Neill, Julia Valliant, Hilary Aten, Tammy Nebola 3 Facilitated Discussion Session (Parisian) 4 Facilitated Discussion Session (Continental)
11:30–12:30	Conference Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Facilitated Discussion Session (Far East) 2 Facilitated Discussion Session (Oak Room) 3 Measuring Working Land’s Ecological Benefits (Parisian) Michael Delbar, Theresa Nogeire-McRae, Katie Pisarello 4 Creating Coalitions that Make a Difference (Continental) Lori Olson, Mallory O’Steen, Kip Kolesinskas
12:30–1:30	Community Lunch and NALN Birthday Party (International)