

## SAMPLE PROJECTS

### Examples of environmental stewardship practices:

**Soil:** no-till; using compost or mulch; cover crops to increase organic matter; planting perennials, transitioning from the use of synthetic herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers; producing on-farm compost

**Air:** Using eclectic-powered tools rather than gas- powered

**Water:** water catchment system, berms and swales to control rainwater and prevent runoff, using drip irrigation to reduce water usage and increase infiltration, install new fencing to keep animals out of sensitive areas

**Biodiversity:** establishing wildlife and beneficial insect habitat, using beneficial insects for pest management

**Energy:** using alternative energy sources reducing fossil fuel use

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### Examples of possible projects (suggestions only):

#### Rainwater Catchment

1. Install a rain barrel or IBC tote under the existing gutter system of a home or farm building to catch and distribute rainwater.

Cost:	
IBC tote- 275 gallons	\$200
Lumber, fasteners and post bases	\$135
Total	\$335

A 330 gallon IBC tote is available for \$340

2. Install gutters, rain barrels and a pump to an existing high tunnel (example is for 100' tunnel).

Cost:	
Vinyl gutters and parts	\$300
IBC totes (2-330 gallon)	\$680
Solar water pump (many options)	\$300
Total	\$1,280

3. Direct water that may be running off your land or eroding your land to a more productive use. Either by hand or with the help of machinery, dig swales and berms to make water behave. Make water slow down and sink in rather than runoff and erode. This project can be whatever you or your land requires: key lines, Hugelkultur beds, wetlands, water gardens etc. The size and slope of the project will determine cost.

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## Farm Resource Management

1. Purchase an electric lawn mower with bagging attachment to collect leaves, grass clippings and weeds to be used as compost ingredients or mulch.

Cost:

21" push mower with bagger                      \$275-500

38" riding mower with bagger                      \$2,800\*

42" riding mower with bagger                      \$4,500\*

\* These prices are for Ryobi products available at Home Depot

2. Build compost bins to turn grass clippings, animal bedding, leaves, garden debris and other waste into the best soil amendment available, home-made compost. The numbers below are for new materials including wire mesh, wood posts and fasteners. You can get creative and make compost bins out of any manner of materials you have on hand or can salvage. The grant can cover your labor to assemble whatever type of bin you wish to construct. The materials below will make 2 - 4x4x4 bins that will produce 2.5 cubic yards of compost at a time.

Cost:

6 - 4x4x4 cedar posts                                      \$150

3 - 2x4x8 cedar    \$ 20

4' x 50' 1"x2" welded wire                              \$ 70

6 - concrete post bases                                      \$ 60

Total    \$300

3. Establish a field border, permanent wildlife and insect habitat or food forest. All of these features include having more living roots in the soil for longer periods of time, and having more green plants photosynthesizing. The benefits are many: carbon sequestration, soil improvement, insect control and the list goes on. This project could be as cheap as a few packets of seed and an afternoon of sowing, or could be much larger in scope and include planting of mature trees and earth moving equipment. You could add bird houses, bat houses and structure for cliff and barn swallows to really add some insect control.