

WHERE FOOD, LAND, AND COMMUNITY GROW TOGETHER.



THE REGENERATIVE GROWER TRAINING PROGRAM

at the **Horn Farm Center** rekindles connection to our gardening roots. From vegetables to tree crops, this program teaches skills for creating and nurturing diverse, abundant, and resilient edible ecosystems.



HORN
FARM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

How We Produce Food Matters.

In the Regenerative Grower Training Program (RGTP), we encourage growers to *think less like a farmer or gardener, and more like an ecosystem.*

This **part-time, hands-on experience** is for anyone interested in building a relationship with the land through growing food for themselves and their communities. Working with both **annual and perennial crops**, students learn how to sow local abundance while supporting ecological health.



Who Takes This Program?

- ☛ Active & aspiring *small farmers & market gardeners* interested in growing food responsibly.
- ☛ *Landowners* looking to enrich their gardening skills while fostering ecological vitality at home.
- ☛ *Community changemakers* committed to food access and empowering people for local resiliency.
- ☛ *Career-pivoters & students* seeking knowledge and experience for working with the land.



Core Attributes

Regenerative Growing | Ecological Design
Agroforestry | Annual & Perennial Foods
Hands-On | Down-to-Earth
No-Till | Small Scale | Climate Smart

PROGRAM COVERAGE

The RGTP is an **immersive, hands-on experience** that blends classroom learning, individualized mentorship, and real-world practice growing food in the field.

The program includes, but is not limited to, the areas of focus outlined below. Students also gain experience by participating in special events (*listed on right*), sharing plants, produce, and the knowledge they gain with the wider community.

FEB

MAR

Winter

- Foundations of ecological design
- Plant propagation: greenhouse
- Seasonal field prep and tree tending



APR

MAY

Spring

- Early season planting + management
- Bed design + field planning
- Greenhouse propagation cont.



Spring Plant Sale
May 1, 2027

~ Two Week Break ~

JUNE

JULY

AUG

Summer

- Field days: growing & harvesting
- Succession planting for fall crops
- Classroom modules: weeds, pests & diseases, foraging, and preservation

Solstice Market
June 19, 2027



SEPT

OCT

Fall

- Tree crop management
- Winter field prep



Pawpaw Festival
September 2027

Sowing Season

Growing Season

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Fridays, February 16th to October 15th, 2027

Sowing Season Winter | Spring

Classes take place at the Horn Farm Center.

- ☛ Sowing Season times: **9AM - 1PM**
- ☛ Growing Season times: **8AM - 12PM**

Exception: three classes will be set aside for **field trips to other ecological growing spaces. Dates will be shared at the start of the program.*



February 2027		April 2027	
T 2/16	F 2/19		F 4/2
T 2/23	F 2/26	T 4/6	F 4/9
March 2027		T 4/13	F 4/16
T 3/2	F 3/5	T 4/20	F 4/23
T 3/9	F 3/12	T 4/27	F 4/30
T 3/16	F 3/19	May 2027	
T 3/23	F 3/26	Saturday, 5/1 Plant Sale	
T 3/30			



Break Time

May 2 - May 17

Growing Season

Summer | Fall

*Class time shift:
8AM - 12PM



May 2027		August 2026	
T 5/18	F 5/21	T 8/3	F 8/6
T 5/25	F 5/28	T 8/10	F 8/13
June 2027		T 8/17	F 8/20
T 6/1	F 6/4	T 8/24	F 8/27
T 6/8	F 6/11	T 8/31	
T 6/15	F 6/18	September 2027	
Saturday, 6/19 Solstice Market			Pawpaw Festival date TBD Sat, 9/18 or 9/25
T 6/22	F 6/25	T 9/7	F 9/10
T 6/29		T 9/14	F 9/17
July 2027		T 9/21	F 9/24
	F 7/2	T 9/28	
T 7/6	F 7/9	October 2027	
T 7/13	F 7/16		F 10/1
T 7/20	F 7/23	T 10/5	F 10/8
T 7/27	F 7/30	T 10/12	F 10/15

RGTP THROUGH THE SEASONS

Collaborating with the Horn Farm's staff in designing, planting, and tending **annual and perennial food systems** for a full growing season, students will experience a broad range of **regenerative agriculture** and **agroforestry** practices.

See below for a glimpse of topics, activities, and crops covered by season:

Winter

Harvesting basketry willows | Pruning tree crops
Planting live stakes | greenhouse seed starting
Bed planning | perennial propagation



Spring

Greenhouse production | "weeding" & foraging
Early season crops | botany & plant families
Bed design | succession planning



Natural preservation & fermentation
Native fruit & nut crops | winter bed prep
Pawpaws | hazelnuts | season reflection

Fall



Tending annuals | watering & irrigation
Soil health | pests & diseases | companion plants
Garlic | black raspberries | elderberries

Summer



PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon completing the RGTP,
students will walk away with ...

- ☛ A full season's experience growing diverse annual and perennial vegetables, fruits, and tree crops on a small scale.
- ☛ Confidence, inspiration, and practical insights for observing, designing, planting, and tending ecological food systems.
- ☛ Nuanced and embodied knowledge of ecology, native and cultivated plants, soil health, and earthcare.
- ☛ Empowerment and conviction in supporting others to rekindle our connection with the land.
- ☛ A network of likeminded peers practitioners equipped to continue nurturing this growing field

I:4

Instructor : Student
ratio



Additional Perks

- ☛ Fresh **fruit, vegetables, and herbs** grown and gathered in the program (*Growing Season*).
- ☛ **Three field trips** to allied farms and properties demonstrating regenerative growing practices.
- ☛ **Physical exercise** and plenty of **outdoor time**.
- ☛ Sessions on related topics for regenerative living, including **foraging, fermentation, and more**.
- ☛ **Comradery and connection** with like-minded students.

APPLICATION AND FEES

To Apply:

Head to hornfarmcenter.org/regenerative-grower-training/ and submit an interest form. After doing so, you will receive an email from the instructors to schedule an **informal get-to-know-you meeting** to discuss your goals, needs, and questions.

Program Cost: \$2860 **Minimum cost: \$2430*

Sliding scale* options are available to promote accessibility or support other students in offsetting program costs. *See webpage for more details.*

Scholarships

Official scholarship funding is not available at this time. If you are concerned about affordability, please reach out to us to discuss financial options and needs.

Payment Plans

All students are eligible for a six-part payment plan to cover program costs. Payments are due in monthly installments beginning in April. Custom plans are available by request.

Physical Expectations Note

Hands-on engagement is core to this program. We ask that students be **capable of physical exertions typical of gardening**, including bending, stooping, pulling, digging, carrying up to 30lb, and spending time outdoors in all conditions.

If students are concerned about physical demands or limitations, please let us know in the interest form.

Questions?

Reach us at
education@hornfarmcenter.org



Connecting with the land put fire back into me. I believe it can do the same for anyone. We all understand at this point that we can be great destroyers, but with a little extra work, we can be great stewards instead.

🌱 Jess, 2025-2026 RGTP

