



**

->Greetings from the folks at [Hundredfold Farm](#) and [Seven Springs Tree Farm](#)!<-

**

Hundredfold Farm is an old-fashioned neighborhood with a green future - a rural, ecologically sustainable cohousing community located just west of Gettysburg PA.

Seven Springs Tree Farm is an organic choose & cut Christmas tree farm that specializes in growing holiday traditions and creating lasting memories.

Upcoming Event



Sat., March 24 from 2 - 5 p.m. - "Welcome to Spring" Open House at Hundredfold Farm

Join us for a dialogue about cohousing, Hundredfold Farm's vision & history, sustainable energy systems, and our green construction & design. Tea & cookies will be served in various members' homes. RSVP to Gretchen at 717-334-4587 or email info@hundredfoldfarm.org. See the schedule below.

2:00 - 2:45 p.m. Overview of cohousing, concurrent with Energy systems at Hundredfold Farm.

Intermission, with tea & cookies

3:00 - 3:45 p.m. Our vision and history, concurrent with HFF home construction and design.

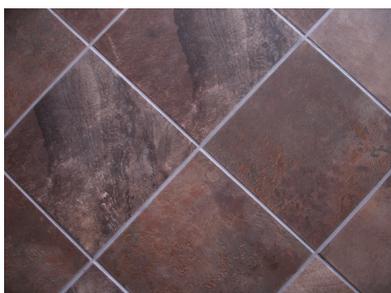
Passive Solar Heating & Cooling

Passive solar design uses sunshine to heat and light the homes at Hundredfold Farm, while reducing our dependence on fossil fuels.

This was a well-thought out part of the design of our homes, using the orientation of the home (south-facing), the placement of windows, and proper insulation in order to make best use of the sun's energy. The result is a comfortable, economical, and green space, free of drafts and cold spots.



In the winter when heating is required, the sun is low in the sky, which allows the heat to penetrate into windows on the south face of a home. In the summer, south-facing windows are shaded by an overhanging roof to keep out the high hot summer sun. Because much of a home's heat is lost through its windows, the majority of windows in a passive solar house are located on the south wall, with smaller and fewer windows on the north, west and east sides.



Dark tile floors act as a thermal mass or heat sink.

Almost all passive solar systems work in conjunction with thermal mass, or materials with a high capacity for absorbing and storing heat - in this case, on our floors, we have tile and cement board, or tile and concrete slab.

Opaque objects absorb 40%–95% of incoming solar radiation from the sun, depending on their color—darker colors typically absorb a greater percentage than lighter colors. This is why solar-absorber surfaces tend to be dark colored.

If the floor has a great deal of mass (like cement or tile, or both) it acts like a heat sink, which will absorb the energy from the sun and release

that heat throughout the day. Thermal shades are used to keep the heat in at night, and keep the sun out during the day in the summer.

Another feature in our homes is the airlock which, as the name implies, locks air between the outside and the inside space. It is an enclosed area (often used as a mudroom or coatroom) that is a transition to the inside of the house. There is a door to the airlock from the main house, and then another door to the outside, thus preventing free flow of cooled or warmed air directly to the outside.

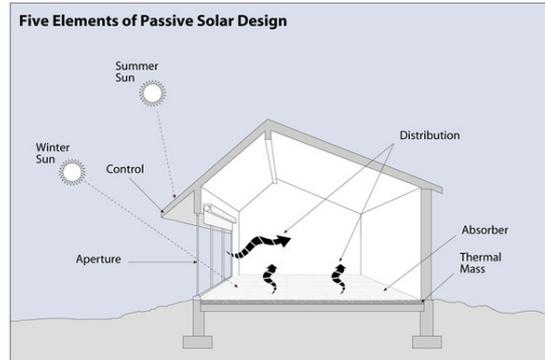


Diagram from the U.S. Department of Energy - energysavers.gov

Good insulation is also essential to prevent climatized air from leaking out and outside air from leaking in. A standard Hundredfold home uses foam board and fiberglass insulation, with an R value of 30, and some residents have added spray foam insulation to their homes. The higher the R-value, the better the home insulation's effectiveness.

Passive solar design not only reduces our energy costs, but creates a comfortable home environment year-round.

To learn more about green construction and sustainable energy systems, plan to attend the Hundredfold Farm "Welcome to Spring" Open House on Saturday, March 24th from 2-5 p.m.

Recent Events

Joel & Gretchen Plotkin retired from the workforce after many years of service in their academic fields, Joel as a professor of theatre at McDaniel College and Gretchen as a nursing instructor at HACC. They finished their semester in December of 2011, and celebrated with a 6-week tour of Africa.



As one chapter ends and a new one begins, Joel is continuing his involvement with Playback Theatre and Gretchen with her choral group Schola Cantorum, as well as their participation in the activities at Hundredfold Farm. They also look forward to having more time for traveling, and spending time with friends and family.

On February 12th, we hosted a retirement party where loved ones gathered to celebrate and wish them a smooth transition to the next chapter of their lives.

Gettysburg Wine & Fruit Trail



View from Hauser Estate Winery

Adams County is a rural community, with agriculture and tourism being the top industries. Agriculture also lends itself to tourism, because of the beautiful countryside as well as the value-added products that are produced.

Orchards are abundant in the county; apples are the predominant crop, but we also have peaches, cherries, plums, pears, and grapes, which result in delicious local wine.

Seven Springs Tree Farm is part of a tourism trail called the Gettysburg Wine & Fruit Trail, ten local family businesses that provide the best from the field, vineyard, greenhouse, and orchard.

Maps are available so that people can visit the various destinations on the trail, which include:

[Boyer Nurseries & Orchards](#)

[Hall Brothers Fruit Farm](#)

[Hauser Estate Winery](#)

[Hollabaugh Bros. Fruit Farm & Market](#)

[McDannell Fruit Farm & Market](#)

[Musselman's Greenhouse](#)

[Reid's Orchard and Winery](#)

[Round Barn & Farm Market](#)

[Sandoe's Market](#)

[Seven Springs Tree Farm](#)



Fruit bins at Boyer Nurseries & Orchards



We invite you to bring your family and friends to experience a scenic drive – to taste our best local wines, to enjoy fresh, local produce, to pick out a new plant for your garden or home, or even cut down a Christmas tree. At Seven Springs Tree Farm, when you come up to pick

out your Christmas tree, be sure to drive to the top of our property to see the gorgeous views!

We are proud to be a member of this important agricultural industry. Visit our trail and see how nature creates a new picture for every season! Click the logo for more information.

Visiting Hundredfold Farm

You don't need to wait for an event to visit us! Tours are available by appointment. Please call Gretchen, our Outreach Coordinator, at 717-334-4587 to arrange a visit.

Speakers Bureau

We are pleased to announce that Hundredfold Farm now has a speakers bureau! If you would like to have a representative come and speak to your group about a particular topic related to cohousing or sustainability, please leave a message at 717-334-9426 or email info@hundredfoldfarm.org.

Classifieds

Solar home for sale at Hundredfold Farm

Built in 2007, this beautiful home is located in Pennsylvania's first ecologically sustainable rural community, just 8 miles west of Gettysburg. The kitchen, dining room, and living room feature an open floor plan with south-facing windows and panoramic views. There is a large master suite, with two additional generously sized bedrooms and two full baths. Ceramic tile and hardwood floors throughout. Bonus 600 sq.ft. unfinished walk-up cape cod-style attic that can be used for storage or a workshop, studio, playroom, etc. Solar electric and solar hot water systems, combined with renewable energy credits, result in no net utility bills. Enjoy 80 acres of private secluded property with scenic mountain vistas, organic vegetable gardens, and over one mile of walking trails. Read more details here: [1134 Evergreen Way](#) or look up [MLS #21105782 on Realtor.com](#). Contact Prudential realtor David Sites at 717-487-4000 to arrange a showing.



Building Lots for Sale

Build your green dream home at Hundredfold Farm – five building lots are still available. Cohousing balances the traditional advantages of home ownership with the benefits of shared common facilities and involvement in community governance. Individual homes are arranged to

preserve privacy while, at the same time, encouraging neighborly interaction. If you are interested in a pastoral, secluded location that can provide food and energy security, while sharing your living experience with a group of like-minded neighbors, you should come and take a closer look!

Community members enjoy shared meals, social events, and gardening together. Our eco-friendly designs include solar hot water and solar electric systems on each home plus an innovative living machine wastewater treatment and recycling system. Call 717-334-9426 for more information.



Overnight packages

Get a taste of the small, friendly village that is Hundredfold Farm ~ tour our ecologically sustainable homes, wastewater recycling facility, and Christmas tree farm, plus enjoy a community meal.

Hundredfold Farm is a peaceful, relaxing oasis, located 10 minutes from the historic Gettysburg Battlefield. You can also enjoy wine tasting at local wineries, a day trip to Washington DC, and hiking the Appalachian Trail. Schedule your visit to take advantage of seasonal activities and events, including the reenactment of the Battle of Gettysburg and various local festivals such as the National Apple Harvest Festival, the PA Lavender Festival, and the Gettysburg Festival celebrating American art, music, and cuisine. December visitors will have the opportunity to experience a working choose & cut Christmas Tree farm. Skiing and snowboarding are also available locally at Ski Liberty and other nearby resorts.

A great getaway for individuals, couples, families and groups. Stay for a weekend or a week ~ contact us at 717-334-9426 for pricing.

Please let us know if you are interested in staying on our list and/or take the opportunity to update the information in our records. Following the "subscribe" link at the bottom will take you to a form where you can enter updated information (and there's an "unsubscribe" link at the bottom if you decide to opt out). You can also forward this message to someone who may be interested in being added to our contact list and receiving this newsletter.



©2013 Hundredfold Farm | 1400 Evergreen Way | Orrtanna, PA 17353 | 717-334-9426

Powered by [Mad Mimi](#) ©