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

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*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.*

## Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Part of the appeal of cohousing is the opportunity to own a single-family home, while enjoying greater interaction with your neighbors in a tightly-knit community. Living in the country is easier when you have the hands, heads, and hearts of many families to help each other out.



In addition to our day-to-day activities, it's nice to have something special to look forward to.

The Community Committee plans events throughout the year to nurture our relationships; residents at Hundredfold Farm enjoy scheduled and impromptu meals, plus other fun events which have included a New Year's Eve murder mystery party, Secret Valentine brunch, and progressive dinner on Labor Day.



The Fall Festival on October 15th will be our last event in 2011 that is open to the public. We're happy to have the chance to tell you more about our unique "old-fashioned" neighborhood! Stop by between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to have a guided tour of our homes and greenhouse, conversation with community residents, and luncheon snacks at the farm house. From 2 - 3 p.m., there will be an orientation for visitors who are interested in joining the community by purchasing a home or building a semi-custom home at Hundredfold Farm.

See you at our Fall Festival on Saturday, October 15th from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.!

## Upcoming Events

**October 15 - Hundredfold Fall Festival**, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Home and greenhouse tours, nature walk, conversation with community residents, and snacks at the farm house.

**November 25 - Seven Springs Tree Farm opens for the season at 10 a.m.**

Early birds, come get your trees!

## Mowing the fields at Seven Springs Tree Farm



Here at Seven Springs Tree Farm, we use a Steiner tractor with a mowing deck attachment to mow the rows between the Christmas trees. The mowing deck has deflectors on it that enable it to keep the lowest branches of the evergreen trees lifted up as it passes by; that way, the branches of the



tree don't get damaged.

The fields are typically mowed twice a year, once in late spring and then again during the fall. Generally, the Steiner makes two passes in mowing each row, going up one side and then coming back down the other. Ideally, the trees are planted in straight rows about six feet apart.

Since we don't always get a head start on the mowing due to weather or equipment repair, the weeds in the fields can reach impressive heights. Any new tree seedling not planted in line with the others on each side of it is at risk of being mowed over. The terrain here at Seven Springs prevents us from planting on a flat grid, which would be ideal. As result, the space between each tree that cannot be mowed with the Steiner is trimmed with a weed whacker. During the fall months, each tree is shaped by hand using machetes.



Mowing is not the simple rote task that you may imagine it to be. A Christmas tree field often contains hidden hazards, requiring constant vigilance on the part of the mower. Hornets often make their nests in the low slung tree branches near the ground; a perfect target for the mower deck! Groundhog holes are hidden dangers which can throw the tractor off balance and right into a nearby tree. Stumps that have not been removed imperil the mower's blades. Brambles and poison ivy are thrown into the mix for added pleasure. The terrain itself can be problematic. Some areas of the property are too steep to mow with the Steiner and must be managed using weed whackers alone.

Mowing does afford its own pleasures, though. Being out in the fields alone allows for contemplation and reflection. The views are nice and you often see deer, turtles, snakes, and other wildlife in the fields. And there's nothing like having a bevy of swallows swooping behind you over a freshly mowed row of Christmas trees.



For returning customers of Seven Springs Tree Farm, we thank you for your continued patronage and we look forward to serving you during the upcoming Christmas tree season! If you have not visited the tree farm before, please consider making Seven Springs Tree Farm your Christmas tree destination this year.

## 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.

## Classifieds

### A Room, A Home, An Experience

FOR RENT: 15 x 15 sq. ft. bedroom with closet, local cable TV, wireless internet, shared kitchen, living room, dining area. Experience living in a cohousing community on an 80-acre tree farm with walking paths, friendly neighbors and weekly common meals. \$350 plus one month security deposit; includes all utilities. Please provide references. Call Linda Miller at (717) 385-4931.





#### 1988 Ford F-150 truck, for parts or project

This truck was used by Seven Springs Tree Farm for the last four years, up until November 2010. It always started and ran fine until Bill tried to start it one morning and it just wouldn't turn over. Our mechanic thinks it may have rolled a main bearing. They tried to get the engine to crank, but had no luck. Some parts have been removed to use on a 1989 F-150. The engine is seized and the

brakes leak fluid. The starter motor is relatively new, and a used transfer case was installed in 2009. The tailgate has a big dent in it and the latches have been removed. May be good for parts or a weekend project - Sold AS IS. \$700 or best offer. *Call Bill at 717-337-2212.*

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#### 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 717-337-1188 to arrange a showing.*



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#### 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.

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*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.*



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