



ROGUE FARM CORPS

PO Box 533 - Ashland, OR 97520 - [www.roguefarmcorps.org](http://www.roguefarmcorps.org) - 541-951-5105

## Host Farmer Standards & Guidelines

Rogue Farm Corps (RFC) requires that all farmers and ranchers who participate in our **Farms Next** program adhere to the following standards and guidelines:

### Membership

- Member farms are required to pay an annual fee of \$1,000 to RFC to cover the costs of coordination, recruitment, promotion and marketing. RFC will work with member farms to establish payments if necessary.
- Member farms are required to attend Orientation, Evaluation & Assessment Sessions (3 annually), and the Annual Membership Meeting at the conclusion of the season.
- Member farms are expected to host one farm tour per season for all students in the program.
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### Type and Scale of Agriculture

- The farm or ranch is in commercial production, utilizing local markets and providing food to the local food system.
- The farm or ranch is substantially contributing to local and regional economies.
- The agricultural practices performed on the land are humane and ecologically sound, providing animals with a high quality of life while enhancing the soil, air, water and wildlife.
- Diversity and resilience are represented through a variety of plant and animal genetics, farm products and the agricultural ecosystem.

### Room & Board

- Students are provided a safe physical environment (sound structure/fire/electrical) that is weatherproof, has adequate ventilation and is pest proof.
- Living structures have a natural source of light and a safe source of lighting (including instruction in the safe use of non-electrical lighting).
- Students are provided a reasonably clean, private and cleanable space (including both personal and common spaces like kitchen and bathroom) with a space for personal cleaning and a sanitary bathroom or latrine.
- Students are provided access to potable water and a heated living area.
- Farmers are expected to clarify eating arrangements (i.e. Do students eat separately or as part of farm household? Will cooking and cleanup be shared?).
- Farmers clarify household chores arrangements.
- Farmers provide or compensate for an adequate diet to fuel the strenuous activity of farm work, provide ample time for regular meals (including prep time),

provide adequate cooking facilities (stove, wash basin, refrigeration, food storage), and clarify ahead of time whether they are willing to provide for special dietary needs.

#### Education and Training Offered

- Farmers must demonstrate a willingness to teach, act as an educational resource, provide access to farm's agricultural library and offer a tour of their farm or ranch once a season.
- Farmers must agree to and abide by the On-Farm Curriculum and Work Ethics Standards developed for their farm or ranch.
- Farmers should have a minimum of 5 years experience farming, or demonstrated capability to mentor beginning farmers.
- Farmers will participate fully in orientation, mid- and post-season evaluations of all students' progress in cooperation with RFC staff.

#### Workload Expectations

- Students should work no more than an average of 40 hours per week, allowing for seasonal fluctuations in scheduling, totally up to 1500 hours per season.
- Farmers are expected to offer monthly stipends ranging from \$400-600. Season-end bonuses are allowed.
- Farmers are required to offer a minimum of one day off per week, with two days off per week strongly recommended.
- Days off must include relief from any and all farm or household chores.
- Farmers will allow time for students to attend all RFC classes, events, tours and time for independent study and journaling.
- Farmers will make workload expectations clear in advance, preferably via weekly planning meetings or farm walks, and discuss changes as they come up throughout the season.

#### Grievances

- Farmers should refer to the RFC Intern Handbook to enhance and improve the student's experience, with special attention to communication.
- Conflicts should be addressed as they arise and be dealt with directly.
- If resolution cannot be made, please contact RFC staff for assistance.
- If RFC cannot help create resolution, we will provide access to needed support and mediation.