

Lancaster Farmland Trust COO Selected to Represent Mid-Atlantic Region on National Board

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Jeff Swinehart, Chief Operating Officer of Lancaster Farmland Trust, has been elected to serve on the Members' Committee of Terrafirma Risk Retention Group for the Mid-Atlantic Region. Jeff will serve as the representative for land trusts in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Terrafirma was established in 2011 by the Land Trust Alliance to defend properties conserved by small, community land trusts across the country from expensive, frivolous lawsuits. Terrafirma is owned and managed by the participating land trusts. The Members Committee represents the owner-member land trusts of Terrafirma and is responsible for approving its policies and strategic direction.

Jeff brings a unique perspective to the Committee, with 18 years of technical experience working directly with families to protect the land they cherish. "I'm honored to serve land trusts of the Mid-Atlantic on the Members Committee and I look forward to working with this distinguished group of land conservation professionals," notes Jeff.

As part of the election process, Jeff submitted a letter to the Committee explaining his desire and qualifications to serve. He writes, "I believe it is imperative to the success of Terrafirma that the Members Committee is represented by practitioners. Those who have negotiated with landowners, addressed stewardship challenges, understand how decisions to litigate or not impact their donor base, contemplate the broader community impact, and stand by the conviction to defend the perpetual obligation to the many families who have entrusted their land in our hands."

About Lancaster Farmland Trust

Lancaster Farmland Trust was established in 1988 by local citizens concerned about the growing threat of development in Lancaster County. The Trust works to preserve and steward the beautiful, productive farmland of Lancaster County that reflects our heritage, supports our economy, nurtures our health and enhances our quality of life. Details at www.lancasterfarmlandtrust.org

About Terrafirma Risk Retention Group LLC

Terrafirma was formed by the Land Trust Alliance to help land trusts defend their conserved lands from the liabilities of legal challenges by pooling and insuring their conservation defense

liabilities and also provides information with respect to loss control and risk management.
Details at www.terrafirma.org

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