

**FRIENDS OF THE FARMS**  
**2019 Annual Report**  
**City of Bainbridge Island and Friends of the Farms Master Lease and Management Agreement**  
**Lease Duration 2012-2042**



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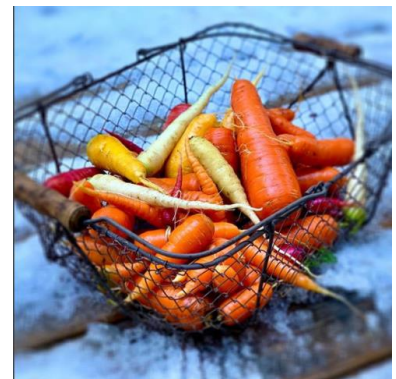
**1. Friends of the Farms**

Friends of the Farms is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation in Bainbridge Island, Washington founded in 2001 with the mission to preserve and enhance local agriculture, increase farmland, and support the farming community.

We believe where and how food is grown affects our health, the health of our land and water, our atmosphere, the ability of people to make a living wage, and for our community to thrive.

*We envision a community-based food system on Bainbridge Island where:*

- As much food as possible is grown, produced, processed, sold, and consumed locally
- Nutritious, fresh, local food is accessible and affordable to everyone
- Farms and related businesses are economically profitable for this and the next generation
- Food is grown and produced using environmentally beneficial agriculture
- Money stays on the island all across the supply and distribution chain
- What and how we eat is integrated in our culture



*We work to create system-level change for long-term impact through:*

- Permanent protection of the existing and potential agricultural land base
- Affordable housing and farmable land for the agricultural community
- Public and private investment in infrastructure and commercial services

- Committed and empowered local government, food-related businesses, and institutions
- Informed food citizens through a multi-disciplinary approach to food studies for children and adults
- Connecting human health with a farm-driven diet to grow a healthy population
- Experimentation, innovation, and education to attract the best and brightest of the next generation of farmers and food producers

Since 2012 FotF has managed 60.86 acres of land owned by the City of Bainbridge Island, of which 21.29 acres are leased by farmers. FotF manages the farm leases, residential rental agreements for 9 farm interns a year, and also provides maintenance and repairs to the remaining 39.57 acres which includes:

- Farm-related infrastructure
  - Irrigation systems
  - Ponds and filter equipment
  - Well pumps and well house systems
  - Electrical systems
- Two residential housing structures occupied by farm interns
- Storage buildings, sheds, and barns
- Roads
- Trail networks
- Public open space/grass
- 14 p-patch garden plots
- 5-acre designated historic area with barn, bunkhouses, sheds and storage containing over 2,000 catalogued historic artifacts



Friends of the Farms is committed to improving the overall economic, environmental, and social health of Bainbridge Island by:

- Creating the desirable visual presence of a rural community
- Providing cultural and economic diversity
- Preserving our island's agricultural and ethnic heritage
- Ensuring food resilience
- Protecting our environment

## 2. Background and History



On December 9, 2011, Friends of the Farms (FotF) and the City of Bainbridge Island (City) signed the “City of Bainbridge Island and Friends of the Farms Master Lease and Management Agreement” (Master Lease). The duration of the Master Lease is 30 years, commencing on the first day of January 2012, and terminating on the first day of January 2042. The properties described in the Master Lease include 60.86 acres of City-owned agricultural land.

**A. Summary of City-owned Agricultural Land Leased by Friends of the Farms**

<b>Agricultural Property Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Size (acres)</b>
Suyematsu & Bentryn Family Farms	9229 NE Day Road- Northeast Section	14.76
Suyematsu & Bentryn Family Farms	9229 NE Day Road- Northwest Section	11.21
Morales Farm	8862 NE Lovgreen Road- Northeast corner of Highway 305 and Lovgreen	4.74
Crawford Property	Accessed either from Suyematsu and Bentryn Family Farms or Lovgreen Road, between Bentryn property (private) to the north and Lempriere property (private) to the south	2.30
M&E Farm	Accessed via Charles Road; between Crawford (west) and private Bentryn property (north)	13.34
Johnson Farm	Johnsonville Lane off of Fletcher Bay Road, approximately ½ mile south of High School Road	14.51
<b>TOTAL ACREAGE</b>		<b>60.86</b>

**3. Required Annual Reporting**

Pursuant to Section 3.11 of the Master Lease, Friends of the Farms is required to provide the City with an annual written report. The report is to include at least the following information:

**A. Quantification of produce and products from designated leased properties**

In 2019 farmers on public land grew 117,406 pounds of produce. Happy free-roaming chickens laid 425 dozen eggs, 625 flats of plant starts were sold to local home-gardeners, and 300 bouquets of flowers graced tables laid with locally grown food.

Butler Green Farms, Hey Day Farm, Laughing Crow Farm, Bainbridge Vineyards, and Bainbridge Island Farms sell produce grown on public farmland at the Bainbridge Island Farmer's Market. Market sales in 2019 were \$511,799.

Local businesses such as Bay Hay & Feed, Heyday Farm Store, Pane D'Amore, and Town & Country Market sell products from farmers on public farmland. Restaurants such as Agate Pass Café, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art Café, Bene Pizza, Blackbird Bakery, Bruciato, Fork and Spoon, Good Egg, Harbor Pub, Hitchcock, Jake's Pickup, Pegasus, Marché, Mossback, Proper Fish, Tulaa, and Via Rosa, on Bainbridge Island and the Pink Door in Seattle source ingredients from local farms on public land.

The production of value-added products from produce grown on public farmland and sold by local small business owners includes beverages and fermented foods from Iggy's, jams from Preserve, tomato sauce from Butler Green Farm, and organic body products from Sun & Bee.

As they have for many years, farmers on public land, including Bainbridge Island Farms, Butler Green Farms, and Laughing Crow Farms, and Vireo Farm give back to benefit our vulnerable populations through regular donations of fresh, healthy food to the foodbank at Helpline House.



**Quantification of Produce and Products in 2019**  
Quantities are in pounds unless otherwise indicated

Name	Location	Produce	Quantity
Laughing Crow Farm Betsey Wittick	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Potatoes	6,500
		Garlic	950
		Garlic Scapes	140
		Onions	1,000
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>8,590 lbs</b>
Bainbridge Island Vineyards Betsey Wittick	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Siegerrebe	4,900
		Madeleine Angevine	8,900
		Mueller Thurgau	5,200
		Pinot Gris	1,200
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>20,200 lbs</b>
Bainbridge Island Farms Karen Selvar	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Raspberries	6,740
		Pumpkins	60,000
		Winter Squash	2,000
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>68,740 lbs</b>
Butler Green Farms Brian MacWhorter	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Greens	425
		Beans	375
		Carrots	1,245
		Beets	875
		Sweet Corn	485
		Broccoli	180
		Cauliflower	80
		Summer Squash	415
		Artichokes	65
		Herbs	45
		Strawberries	60
		Flowers	120 Bouquets
		Eggs	425 Dozen
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>4,250 lbs</b>

Butler Green Farms Brian MacWhorter	Morales Farm	Greens	455
		Tomatoes	2,800
		Spinach	155
		Carrots	850
		Strawberries	90
		Onions	425
		Beets	325
		Summer Squash	350
		Plant Starts	625 Flats
		Flowers	180 Bouquets
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>5,450 lbs</b>
Perennial Vintners Mike Lempriere	Morales Farm	Melon de Bourgogne	919
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>919 lbs</b>
Perennial Vintners Mike Lempriere	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Madeliene Angevine	377
		Mueller Thurgau	655
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>1,032 lbs</b>
Peaceful Morning Farm John Chang	Morales Farm	Brussels Sprouts	200
		Cabbage	400
		Kale	750
		Arugula	100
		Chard	750
		Spinach	100
		Beets	600
		Winter Squash	1,200
		Corn	800
		Cucumbers	25
		Leeks	25
		Broccoli	400
		Cauliflower	400
		Collards	100
		Basil	50
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>5,900 lbs</b>
Heyday Farm	Johnson Farm	Broccoli	245
		Cauliflower	360
		Strawberries	1,240
		Greens	480
		<b>Total quantity</b>	<b>2,325 lbs</b>
Paulson Farm Mike Paulson	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Nursery trees	N/A
		<b>Total All Farms</b>	<b>117,406 lbs</b>

**B. Identification of farmer subleases by parcel, acreage, and lease rates**

While public holding of agricultural land is a valuable community asset, it was recognized shortly after its acquisition that farmers cannot invest in their operations without the guarantee of long-term access to the land they are cultivating. To this end, a Master Lease responsibility of Friends of the Farms is to negotiate and manage sublease agreements with farmers and provide various management services for the leased public farmland and structures.



In 2013, Friends of the Farms executed eight subleases on Suyematsu and Bentryn Family Farms, Johnson Farm, and Morales Farm (Only public farmland that was conducive for farming with minimum enhancements was considered.)

Sublease terms range from 5-25 years. Annual sublease rates (based on USDA lease rate formulas, adjusted for Kitsap County/Bainbridge Island) range from \$170 per acre to \$334 per acre, plus utilities.

**Summary of Farmer Sub-Leases in 2019**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location Parcel Number</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Lease Rate (acre/year)</b>	<b>Duration (years)</b>
Laughing Crow Farm Betsey Wittick	Suyematsu– Bentryn 102502-1-063-2005	1.19	\$334	25
Bainbridge Island Vineyard Betsey Wittick	Suyematsu– Bentryn 102502-1-063-2005	3.34	\$334	25
Bainbridge Island Farms (now Suyematsu Farms) Karen Selvar	Suyematsu– Bentryn 102502-1-063-2005	6.82	\$334	25
Butler Green Farms Brian MacWhorter	Suyematsu– Bentryn 102502-1-063-2005	2.54	\$334	25
Butler Green Farms Brian MacWhorter	Morales Farm 102502-1-062-2006	1.7	\$290	25
Perennial Vintners Mike Lempriere	Morales Farm 102502-1-062-2006	.4	\$290	25
Perennial Vintners Mike Lempriere	Suyematsu– Bentryn 102502-1-063-2005	.59	\$290	25
John Chang’s Garden John Chang	Morales Farm 102502-1-062-2006	.67	\$290	12
Heyday Farm	Johnson Farm 282502-2-064-2002	1.6	\$170	12
Paulson Farm Mike Paulson	Suyematsu– Bentryn 102502-1-063-2005	1.44	\$334	24
Vireo Farm Mark Taylor & Tracy Lang	Johnson Farm 282502-2-064-2002	1.0	\$170	21
<b>Total Acreage</b>		<b>21.29</b>		





**C. Summary of financial management (calendar year basis) including but not limited to: expense by parcel and payee; income by parcel; operating revenues and expenses of the management organization; grants sought/awarded, etc.**

Per the Master Lease agreement, Friends of the Farms acts as the fiscal agent for earned revenue from public farmland use. In 2019 earned income from farmer leases was \$6,603 and tenant rent from housing was \$12,905. Lease money from 14 community P-Patch garden plots generated \$810. Expenses for public farmland management totaled \$81,206. Details of publicly owned farmland revenue and expenses are attached at the end of this report.

Additionally, Friends of the Farms' volunteer program provides hundreds of volunteers every year, working thousands of hours on public farmland. Many volunteers loaned or donated tools and equipment that otherwise would need to be rented or purchased at significant cost.

Following funding requests to CoBI Council approved a payment of \$72,000 for management services on public farmland in 2020 and \$65,000 in 2019. Prior to 2019, Friends of the Farms received no financial support from the City for operations since the Master Lease agreement commenced in January 2012.



In late 2019 an ad hoc committee of three Council was formed to review the public farmland management structure.

**D. Schedule and status for farm-related capital improvements**

Friends of the Farms monitors the farmer subleases and oversees farm-related capital improvements on all five public farmland properties. The Projects Committee gathers input from leasehold farmers through the Site Committee Process, Kitsap Conservation District, Friends of the Farms' Board members and staff, and community members. Together, a list of priority capital improvement and maintenance projects is developed. The list is updated annually by the Projects Committee and approved by the Friends of the Farms' Board of Directors.

Working within the budget established by the City, FotF works with City staff to organize longer term plans for the City properties and develop criteria to identify which potential projects (capital or major maintenance) should be the responsibility of FotF and which should be the responsibility of the City. This resulted in the following projects completed by the City during 2019:

- Servicing to septic systems at the Suyematsu and Morales farms.
- Mowing/clearing of fence lines
- Gravel replenished in parking areas and on roads at Day Road farms
- Other projects on public farmland included removal of a culvert on the M&E property and several discussions related to the Crawford property.
- There is on-going discussion of projects and next steps for the houses at Suyematsu and Morales farms.

E. **Description of use and activities, including but not limited to: farm-related activities, educational programs, community outreach, farm stewardship volunteer work parties, and public events**

In addition to agricultural activities by farmers with subleases, public farmland is used extensively throughout the year by the broader community.

**P-Patch Plots**



The Friends of the Farms P-Patch Gardener Program benefits families by providing 14 pesticide-free plots at Johnson Farm to grown their own food. There currently is a waiting list for P-Patch plots.

**Bainbridge Island Fruit Club Orchard Maintenance.**

The following report provides an overview of the Bainbridge Island Fruit Club's (BIFC) involvement with the Johnson Farm and Friends of the Farm (FOF) since 2014.

Specific areas covered include:

- Timeline of BIFC Involvement at the Johnson Farm and FOF
- Establishing An Inventory of Johnson Farm Fruit Trees
- Restoring the Johnson Farm Orchard Through Selective Pruning, Grafting, and Introduction of Disease Resistant Trees and New Fruit Varieties
- Creating New Varieties Through Grafting of Older Trees
- Educating the Public About Growing Fruit
- Assessing Fruit Production
- Summary of Lessons Learned
- Future Plans





## Timeline of BIFC Involvement at the Johnson Farm (FOF)



- 2014/2015 - Interested Islanders meet with FOF on helping manage Johnson Farm orchard.
- September 2015 – BIFC sponsors fruit information booth at the Harvest Fair, providing samples of various apples, pears, and grapes as well as answering fruit-related questions.
- April 2016 Memorandum of Understanding signed between BIFC and FOF.
- May 2016 - BIFC Board members do walk-through of Johnson Farm orchard, examining condition of trees and pruning needs as well as removing tent caterpillar nests.
- July 2016 - 4-hour pruning event of 7 large apple trees.
- August 2016 - Inventory of fruit trees counting a total of 67 apples, pears, plums, and walnut trees. Color coded diagram of orchard prepared in 2017, showing varieties, size of trees, and those involving significant pruning.
- March 2017 - Inserted nearly 50 grafts on 7 pruned trees.
- April 2017 - BIFC and Peach Patch members prune large grape row at Johnson Farm.
- July-Sept. 2017- Clean-up of 7 pruned trees...counting 12 successful grafts.
- September 2017 – BIFC sponsored fruit information booth at the Harvest Fair, providing sample of various apples, pears, and grapes as well as answering fruit-related questions.
- March-April 2018 – Second round of pruning of the larger trees (and grape row) as well as additional grafting of those trees pruned in 2016.
- September 2018 – BIFC sponsored fruit information/sampling booth at the Harvest Fair.
- February 2019 – Inventoried damage to orchard from February winter storm. Approximately eight trees were damaged, several of which are total losses.
- March-April 2019 – Pruned three additional larger trees as well as inserted multiple grafts on last year’s pruned trees.
- Summer 2019 - Clean-up of grafted trees from last 2 years, removing excessive growth and suckers. Also labeled all the successful grafts with metal name tags.
- September 2019 – BIFC sponsored fruit information/sampling booth at the Harvest Fair. Booth also included “experts” helping the public identify unknown apple and pear varieties.
- Spring/Summer 2020 – Plans to prune additional apples trees and grafting onto trees pruned last year. Also hope to work with FOF to install four educational signs in the orchard describing the club’s efforts at restoring the orchard to additional, more productive apple varieties (i.e., replacing old Red Delicious apple trees). The signage is contingent on receiving approval for our Rotary grant application—which is currently pending.

### Establishing An Inventory of Johnson Farm Fruit Trees

Beginning in 2016, the BIFC so far has identified about 80 percent of the 67 fruit trees on Johnson Farm. These include: apple (45), pear (10), plum (9), and walnut (3). Of the apple varieties, nearly half are Red Delicious. As for those varieties that couldn’t be identified, the club received help from Lori Brakken (Western Cascade Fruit Society) in September 2018 in identifying six previously unknown apple trees, including Brock, Cinnamon Spice, Artlet, Sops of Wine, and Gravenstein.



Diagram of existing fruit trees at the Johnson Farm, those currently identified, and ongoing grafting.



## Restoring the Orchard Through Selective Pruning, Grafting, and Introduction of Disease Resistant Trees and New Fruit Varieties

In July 2016 and March 2018, the BIFC and FOF staff conducted significant pruning of nine Red Delicious apple trees, most of which were adjacent to the Johnson Farm Pea Patch. This pruning involved removing old, dead wood as well as topping some of the trees that had become very top heavy and difficult to manage. The photo above shows the before and after photos of one of the apple trees,

which had canopy other trees percent bottom totally new recovered 2018, significant and will be used in grafting new varieties (see next section).



about one-third of its removed. Several involved nearly 90 branch removal (see photo) in an effort to convert the trees to varieties. These trees nicely in 2017 and experiencing new growth that was



The BIFC is also growing several full size apple starts (now 4+ feet tall) in the adjacent p-patch that will be planted in the Johnson Farm orchard in Spring 2020 or 2021. Our hope is that these anthracnose resistant apple trees will be more durable than prior replacement plantings. We also hope to graft several new varieties of plums onto several existing plum rootstocks (original grafts died), such as Methley, Obilnaja, Peach-Plum, Satsuma, Shiro, and Victoria.

Finally, the BIFC is planning another major pruning event in 2020, with the hope of significantly pruning two or three new apple trees.

## Creating New Varieties Through Grafting of Older Trees

In early March 2017, 2018, and 2019, Darren Murphy (BIFC Club President) placed more than 150 grafts on 7 of the 11 apples trees pruned the last 3 years. Of these, over 52 successfully grafts took. The two photos show several of the trees grafted as well as the significant growth experienced after just one summer.



Darren also went back several times throughout the last two summers, doing follow-up pruning on most of the 11 trees, removing remaining old and dead branches, and placing aluminum tags on all of the successful grafts.



We also found that grafting proved to be more successful on new growth following the prior year's pruning. For example, grafts onto the new growth from the trees severely pruned in 2016, were 80 percent successful in 2018—as illustrated by the significant 1-year growth on the following tree.



**2017 Successful Grafts on Red Delicious Trees (Moderately Pruned):**

Tree 1 (1 Pink Permain and 1 Pendragon)

Tree 2 (1 Murphy Surprise)

Tree 3 (1 Cherry Cox Pippin, 2 Winter Banana, and 2 Novamac)

**2018 Successful Grafts on Red Delicious Trees (Severely Pruned):**

Tree 4 (9 Chehalis and 4 Ellison Orange)

Tree 5 (1 Brown Russet, 4 Mutsu, and 7 Sekai Ichi)

**2019 Successful Grafts on Red Delicious Trees (Severely Pruned):**

Tree 6 (1 Pendragon, 1 Christmas Pink, 2 Pink Pearl, and 5 Airlie Redflesh)

Tree 7 (1 Olympia, 2 Karmijn de Sonnaville, 3 Melrose, and 4 Jonagold)

**2020 Four trees severely pruned in 2019, will be grafted this spring.**

Trees 8, 9, 10, and 11

Several of the successful 2017 grafts resulted in the first new fruit varieties in 2018 and 2019, including Novamac and Winter banana (see below photos).



**Educating the Public About Growing Fruit**



For three years BIFC has sponsored an information/fruit tasting booth at Harvest Fair. Beyond educational displays and handouts, the big attraction was the fruit tasting. Our grapes and red fleshed apples were a big hit. Given the popularity of our

booth, the club added a second tent as well as bringing in two apple/pear identification experts. This proved a big draw (even on a rainy day) for the club's booth, with over 20 of the 200-300 booth attendees bringing by fruit samples to have them identified.

In April 2017, the BIFC also assisted the Johnson Farm P-Patchers in pruning a large, overgrown grape row. The grapes, which represent three to four different varieties of table and wine grapes, hadn't been pruned for many years. The club held a follow-up event in Spring 2018, doing more selective grape pruning. Although most of the grapes have seeds (similar to Concord grapes), Darren was successful in using several pickings in making several gallons of delicious dark pink to purple grape juice.

### **BIFC Assessing Fruit Production**

Anyone visiting the Johnson Farm orchard in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, would have noticed a significant difference in the amount of fruit production. For example, 2016 and 2018 were plentiful years, with most of the trees producing significant amounts of fruit. In fact, several of the apple and pear trees in 2016 had so much fruit that a number of large branches broke and had to be removed. In comparison, 2017 and 2019 saw very little production. This is not unusual, as fruit trees can become biennial bearers if production one year is excessive, leading to the next year having minimal production in order for the trees to recover. In commercial orchards, fruit is thinned annually during the early part of the summer to prevent over production and encourage larger-sizes.

We also noticed significant variances among the Red Delicious apples, with some having very nice, well developed fruit, while others were very small, miss-shaped, and scabby. Some of these latter (less desirable) fruit trees have been included in our ongoing grafting efforts to convert to different apple varieties that should lead to better quality fruit and production in the future. It would also be nice to find an outlet for a good portion of the apples and pears, especially the early varieties (e.g., Yellow Transparent and Bartlett pears), most of which end up rotting on the ground.

Finally, several insects cause significant damage to apples and pears in the Pacific Northwest. These include the codling moth (both pear and apple) and apple maggots (just apples). 2018 was very unique in that the apple maggot damage was nearly non-existent in all of Kitsap County. Although there was some damage at the Johnson Farm, it was extremely minimal compared to other years. Tent caterpillars were also abundant over the last 3 years, although less of a problem in 2019 than in the prior 2 years.

### **BIFC Summary of Lessons Learned**

- Orchard is far more diverse in fruit varieties than originally anticipated, including a wide selection of apples, pears, plums, and nuts as well as multiple grapes and several persimmons.
- Anthracnose is a key factor in determining success of smaller apple trees and grafts. Prior efforts to repopulate orchard with semi-dwarf apple trees have mostly failed.
- Significant summer pruning (80-90 percent removal of tree canopy) resulted in trees going dormant, with significant new growth following spring.
- Whip grafting proved more successful on new growth following prior year's pruning than using older braches. For example, 2017 grafts on existing braches were 20 percent successful vs. 2018 grafts on new growth were 80 percent successful. Surprising, our 2019 grafts weren't as successful...although we still achieved around a 60 percent rate.

### **BIFC Future Plans**

- Continue pruning of old growth/deadwood and grafting of new varieties.
- Plant several anthracnose resistant apple rootstocks in orchard to replace dead/dying trees.
- Continue efforts to identify unknown fruit trees and grapes.
- Install educational signs/placards in orchard in 2020 (assuming Rotary grant application is approved).
- Continue educating the public on the various fruit varieties and grafting/pruning efforts as part of Harvest Fair and club tours. Also plan on providing apple/pear ID experts again.



### **Friends of the Farms Farmland Stewardship**

There are volunteer opportunities for all ages throughout the year at various public farmland properties. Together, volunteers work to maintain and enhance each property. Participants are treated to a locally sourced meal as our way to give thanks. The community reaps the benefits through this work of invasive species removal, trail construction, general maintenance, and completion of capital projects.

### **Community Engagement**

As they have for many years, the Bainbridge Island Lacrosse team continues to utilize the trail network at Johnson Farm for training runs.

Friends of the Farms also coordinates and oversees other activities at farms, including the annual Gear Grinders Farm Fresh Scramble, a community mountain bike race.

In 2019 the Bainbridge Island Land Trust began utilizing Johnson Farm as the launching point for regularly scheduled guided tours of the Springbrook Creek Preserve and a nearby parcel they are raising funds to secure.

An extensive trail network throughout the public farm properties allowing the public to access our farmland for year-round passive recreation. Birders frequent Johnson Farm, M & E, Crawford, and portions of Suyematsu and Bentryn Family Farm. The Kitsap Audubon Society utilizes the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's ebird.com to track bird activities at "hotspots." Two are located on public farmland with multiple sightings of 136 species of birds identified at Suyematsu & Bentryn Family Farm since 2011 and 38 species of birds with multiple sightings at M&E since January of 2019.

FotF Volunteers provide guided farm walks on public land. Farm walks are a fun way for all ages to get out on farmland, meet farmers and interns, and learn both the history and current uses of the land.

### *Annual Events*



Every fall locals and visitors come to the Suyematsu pumpkin patch leased by Karen Selvar. It is an annual ritual for families with more than 5,000 visitors in October 2019, plus school tours.

July is raspberry u-pick time. Another great family outing to create special memories. This year u-pickers harvested 300 pounds.



## Harvest Fair



September 22, 2019 was Friends of the Farms 18th and last Harvest Fair at Johnson Farm.

Spirits were not dampened by rain throughout the day, and with the help of over 130 volunteers our guests enjoyed local food, music, rides, and cider pressing, and more. FotF is happy to have sponsored this event for so many years and will be incorporating the best of Harvest Fair into smaller, local food and farm-focused events on public and private farmland in the future.

**F. Description of farm and farm-related activities demonstrating compliance with the Goals, Policies and Practices and other requirements of the Master Lease. Where appropriate, reporting and an explanation of instances where the Goals, Policies and Practices and other requirements of the Master Lease may not have been met**

Friends of the Farms manages public farmlands consistent with Goals, Policies and Practices set forth in Section 3.9 of the Master Lease.

### Commercial Farmers

Commercial farmers not only utilize public land for the business of providing our community with delicious, healthy, locally grown food, they also provide lasting improvements to CoBI-owned land through their work.

### Vireo Farm

In 2018 Friends of the Farms issued an RFP for 1 acre of underutilized land on the lower area of Johnson Farm. One proposal was received by Vireo Farm. After review by Friends of the Farms and the City of Bainbridge Island, Vireo's proposal was approved. Friends of the Farms and CoBI legal staff worked together to draft a sublease, which was executed in January of 2019.



Vireo Farm owners Mark Taylor and Tracy Lang are currently building the foundation for their indoor organic hydroponic farming operation and hope to be up and running by this late summer.



Vireo is a family operation. Mark and Tracy's daughter Quinn has built flight cage, now home to over 80 quail she hatched from eggs. The eggs are being sold to a local restaurant, *Proper Fish*, for a new item on their menu.

As part of their work Vireo is making improvements to their subleased parcel, healing the land, and restoring it to health and productivity.

There is still a long way to go on this process, but Mark and Tracy are dedicated and hard-working and much has been accomplished.

In 2019 Vireo Farm:

- Invested \$14,000 to have PSE install an electricity pole
- Planted 1,000 edible Camus bulbs
- Imported 300 yards of soil
- Installed a deer and coyote fencing
- Installed a rain garden
- Began pruning and restoration of walnut trees
- Did extensive work to remove invasive blackberry

### Education

Farmers on public land recruit and mentor interns every year. Up to 9 interns at a time are housed in public farmland managed by Friends of the Farms. Intern and new farmer housing are critical to attracting and retaining the next generation of local farmers.

### Bainbridge Food Forest



In 2019 landscape architect, Sandy Fisher of Fisher-Bouma, created a base map of the existing site conditions and evaluated the potential opportunities for use best suited to the various elements of the landscape. Additional onsite evaluation and recommendations were provided by Eric Mader of Northwest Meadowscapes and the Xerces Society.

Last month FotF contracted with Juan Rovalo, Senior Ecologist and Integrated Design Specialist at Biohabitats for ecological assessment work. Biohabitats is a nationally-renowned ecological consulting firm that applies the science of ecology to restoring ecosystems, conserving habitat, and regenerating life-sustaining natural systems through research, planning, design, engineering, and construction - and is also based on Bainbridge Island.

FotF has secured a proposal from Westerlund for removal of invasive species such as blackberry, velvet grass, and scotch broom this summer after nesting birds have fledged, and have submitted the required permit applications to CoBl.

### 4. Site Committee Reports

As required in Article 3.10 of the Master Lease, Friends of the Farms has a Site Committee process that involves multiple meetings of key stakeholder (farmers, Friends of the Farms' representatives, and neighborhood stewards) per year to monitor each property. The site committees follow policy and processes developed to appropriately manage each farm and identify issues that need to be addressed to improve the land. This process includes the following:

- Monitor Goals, Policies and Practices from Lease Exhibit B
- Identify and document issues of concern with recommended resolutions
- Identify and document capital improvements/maintenance measures to be addressed; participate in developing a Capital Improvement Plan

Farm-related capital improvements and maintenance completed in 2019 are detailed below. Day Road farm properties, Johnson Farm, and Morales are more developed than Crawford or M&E and so generally require more time and expense, although ongoing maintenance and improvements occurs on all properties.

Both CoBI and Friends of the Farms continue to improve efficiency and streamline communications regarding public farmland maintenance, repairs, and improvements. CoBI and FotF work together to create a Master Maintenance list for all public farmland, create budgets, and prioritize projects.

## 5. Summary of 2019 Services Provided by Friends of the Farms

### Q1

#### General

- Monitored infrastructure on all farms. Kept in communication with farmhouse residents to ensure their safety due to lack of power and heat for several days during the snowstorms. Repaired minor damage and did extensive exterior cleanup at Johnson Farm Orchard.
- Identified priority projects and created 2019 schedule for work parties on public farmland utilizing Friends of the Farms volunteer base.
- Secured pro bono services of project manager for the Bainbridge Food Forest at M&E, and established separate work parties throughout 2019 onsite. Early focus on invasive species removal and removal of trash and debris.

#### Johnson

- Worked with Robbie Sepler to draft and execute farmer sublease for 1 acre of land at Johnson Farm.
- Worked with Vireo Farm and CoBI to submit building permit application for Indoor Organic Hydroponic Garden structure.
- Coordinated with Johnson Farm neighbor for repairs to Twin Ponds Road that runs through farm.
- Purchased shingles and repaired outbuilding roof damaged during winter storms.
- A “mutt mitt” station has been installed in the lower parking lot. The station is being utilized, however, the bags are being left onsite. Working with CoBI for garbage pickup at the site.
- Cleaned up damage caused by snowstorms and assisted BI Fruit Club at pruning work party on March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Spring Brook Creek Project
  - Met with COBI staff onsite to discuss metering of water from irrigation ponds and ongoing maintenance.
  - Coordinating with Brian Stahl regarding Heyday irrigation to their leased area
  - As a result of the meeting, CoBI added several buildings to their maps that they were previously not noted.





- Trail Network
  - Working with longtime volunteer Rob Ferguson on proposal to extend the walking trail around the pond and up the back portion of the property. Rob would provide equipment and donate his time and some materials to the project. Began dialogue with Parks Foundation to collaborate on a proposal to plan, build, and fund the project.



#### **Suyematsu-Bentryn Family Farms (Day Road)**

- Evaluated damage from snow, invasives, and fallen trees to deer fence along the West side of Day Road
- Did triage repairs until permanent repair project is implemented. Years of sun have destroyed plastic netting and will need to be replaced in the coming year.

#### **Crawford**

- Ongoing dialogue and exchange of information with CoBI, Gerard Bentryn, and Betsey Wittick regarding status of Bentryn's request to CoBI to comply with Shade Covenant.

#### **M&E**

- In Fall of 2018 Friends of the Farms presented Council with plans to create a Food Forest on M&E in partnership with Bainbridge Prepares. Currently there are 17 volunteer leaders for the project. Teams include Management, Leadership, Design, Marketing, Fundraising, Permitting & Regulatory Compliance, Volunteers, and Community Outreach.
- The team has spent six months in facilitated planning, base mapping, and consulting with experts in habitat restoration and preservation. Two community feedback meetings have been held, as well as a farmer and potential stakeholder meeting.
- The project is now in the preliminary design and fundraising phase.

#### **Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales**

- Fire extinguishers have been checked and charged.
- Scheduled and attended annual code compliance inspections at both intern houses. Structures passed inspection.
- Intensive cleaning of interior and minor repairs and maintenance were done in preparation for arrival of first farm interns on February 16.
- Coordinating with Aaron Claiborne from COBI to locate the shutoff for the newly upgraded pump house to allow for immediate shutoff in an emergency.
- Solicited input from local farmers on process for managing housing applications and rent structure. Revised process based on input received.
- Housing applications were received from four farms Butler Green Farms, Laughing Crow Farm, Full Tilth Farm and Farmhouse Organics. We confirmed room for 3 interns with



Butler Green, 2 interns split between Full Tilt and Laughing Crow and 2 for Farmhouse Organics, Sebastian Edgerton rounds out the space at 8 total.

### Community

- Held three meetings of the Harvest Fair Planning Committee. Fair date is Sunday, September 22. Reviewed community and volunteer feedback following last year's Harvest Fair.
- Created Instagram account and are regularly posting promotional photos taken on public farmland. Account has 86 followers after 5 weeks.

### P-Patch Management at Johnson Farm and Morales

- Reviewed P-patch lease and liability documents and provided them to current lessee's at Johnson Farm for renewal. The P-patch is at capacity and there is a waiting list for space.
- Ongoing work to complete new fence around P-patch. Friends of the Farms donated the funds for materials and equipment and the volunteers for this project.
- Morales farmer Brian MacWhorter donated his time and materials to prepare previously underutilized land not under sublease for planting. The space will be shared by a new P-patcher and a Morales House farm intern in a pilot program by Friends of the Farms to allow interns to grow their own crops in addition to their work with a local farmer.
- Designed, created, and installed cedar number signs at Johnson Farm P-patch plots to organization with new P-patchers.



### New Public Farmland Programming

- Working with BARN to collaborate on farmer workshops in 2019. This would include farmers utilizing public land, such as:
  - Raspberry jam class with Karen Selvar's raspberries
  - Onion relish or jalapeno jam using Betsey's Wittick's produce
  - Garlic Braids with Betsey Wittick's produce
  - Flower arranging with Rebecca Slattery
- Yoga @ Johnson
  - Worked with Dayaalu Center to collaborate on weekly outdoor Sunday afternoon yoga classes from mid-July to early September.
- Gear Donations
  - Have applied to major workwear brands for gear donations for interns living in public farmland. Poor rain gear, boots, or general work wear is an issue as interns often cannot afford the proper gear or equipment to perform well and stay healthy.
  - Sent inquiry to the National Young Farmers Coalition asking about a nonprofit membership whose benefits could be shared with our public farmland interns/beginning farmers. They offer major discounts to farming brands for clothing, seeds equipment etc. to individual members.

## Administration

- Collected data, wrote, and submitted 2018 Annual Report on Public Farmland Management (attached) to CoBI as required under our Master Lease Agreement.
- Worked with Robbie Sepler to draft Amendment No. 1 to the Master Lease to allow for quarterly payments management fee for 2019.
- At the request of Ellen Schroer, drafted and submitted a list of suggested areas for edits or additions to the Master Lease by section to facilitate discussion at a first meeting on lease revisions and management fee for 2020 forward.
- Created 2019 budget for Public Farmland Management.
- Created 2019 public farmland priority maintenance, repair and improvement list. Coordinating with CoBI staff on their priorities and projects that will be undertaken.
- Generated and sent annual invoices to public farmland sublease farmers and processed payments.
- Ongoing generating of monthly invoices to interns in public farmland housing and processing payments.
- 264 volunteer hours contributed to public farmland management, maintenance, improvement, and promotional work.

## Q2

### General

- Continued to monitor infrastructure on all farms and completed storm cleanup
- Began work on priority projects targeted for 2019 utilizing Friends of the Farms staff and volunteer base. Three of seven work parties were completed at M&E and Johnson Farm.

### Johnson

- Organized and executed a work party on June 20th to re-paint two of the barn structures at Johnson Farm.
- Ongoing pest management to remove wasp nests in eaves and foundations of buildings.
- Trail Network
  - Began dialogue with Parks Foundation to collaborate on a proposal to plan, build, and fund trail expansion for increased public access and connectivity.
  - Ongoing work with longtime volunteer Rob Ferguson on proposal to extend the walking trail around the pond and up the back portion of the property. Rob would provide equipment and donate his time and some materials to the project.
  - Ongoing mowing and maintenance of Johnson Farm trails by Rob Ferguson, FotF staff, and volunteer base.
- Working with Vireo Farm owners to assist them in navigating the CoBI code requirements to allow for the indoor organic hydroponic garden structure on their leased parcel.



### **Suyematsu-Bentryn Family Farms (Day Road)**

- Emergency repairs completed on the well pump providing irrigation to the Day Road Farm properties. Friends of the Farms paid \$4,157.69 to complete repairs.
- Sublease farmer Betsey Wittick reported minor vandalism on her adjacent private property. At her request, FotF installed three “private property” signs at gates along the border of M&E and Bentryn property.
- Onsite meeting between FotF staff and BI Parks Foundation trails committee at M&E and Day Road to discuss options and next steps to move forward with new connection trails
- Sublease farmers have identified ongoing issues with irrigation pond filtration systems. FotF is currently working to collect more information on the issue and will report back on necessary repairs.

### **Crawford**

- Ongoing dialogue and exchange of information with CoBI, Gerard Bentryn, and Betsey Wittick regarding status of Bentryn’s request to CoBI to comply with Shade Covenant.

### **M&E**

- Two work parties focused on invasive species removal were held on April 27th and May 18th. With support from Sustainable Bainbridge and equipment loaned from BI Parks three large trailer loads of scotch broom and blackberry were removed.
- Ongoing communication and one-on-one meetings with nearby property owners to inform and engage in the planning and development of the Bainbridge Food Forest.

### **Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales**

- Repairs were completed on the refrigerator and toilet at Morales, and the washing machine at Suyematsu by Friends of the Farms program manager.
- Both the Suyematsu and Morales farmhouses are housing seven interns this year. Friends of the Farms coordinated applications, security deposits, and lease agreements with each intern/master farmer.
- FotF coordinated with Joel Goodwin and farmhouse interns to provide access to farmhouse septic systems for pumping and updates.
- Friends of the Farms continues to communicate with farmhouse tenants with questions and invoice monthly for rent.

### **P-Patch Management at Johnson Farm and Morales**

- Two p-patch gardeners gave up their plots due to health and work demands. Their plots have been filled from the wait list and rental agreements signed.
- Planning and additional maintenance at Johnson Farm in preparation for Edible Garden Tour’s stop on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Coordinated a grape pruning workshop with the BI Fruit Club to maintain the fence and grapes along the east side of the p-patch.
- FotF hosted a p-patch potluck to welcome the new gardeners, discuss this year’s Edible Garden Tour, and share food prepared from the gardens.

## Community



- Farm Resource Library
  - Received donations from farm magazines and online resources to create an online library for local farm interns and beginning farmers. These resources are now available on the Friends of the Farms website.
- Provided guided educational tours of public farmland to community members.
- Held three meetings of the Harvest Fair Planning Committee. Fair date is Sunday, September 22. Coordinating with nonprofit, farmer, and food vendors, business sponsors and others to plan this year's event.
- FotF staff and volunteers met on public farmland with media representatives from the Kitsap Sun and King 5 News. Resulting promotion brought increase in awareness of public farmland and resulted in increase in volunteer base to help maintain the properties.
- Had a booth at the Bainbridge Island Farmers Market on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Engaged with many community members about local agriculture, the Bainbridge Food Forest, summer work parties, volunteer opportunities and summer events on public farmland.

## Administration

- Wrote and presented Annual Report on Public Farmland Management to Council and did Q&A at the April 23rd City Council meeting, per the terms of our Master Lease.
- Ongoing meetings and work with Ellen Schroer on proposed edits or additions to the Master Lease by section to facilitate discussion with Council at the July 16th Study Session.
- Phone and in-person meetings with representatives of the Historic Preservation Commission regarding the Historic Suyematsu Farmstead structures.
- Upon invitation, gave presentation to the Island Center Subarea Planning Committee on opportunities to incorporate local agriculture in their work.
- Coordinating with CoBI staff on 2019 maintenance, repair and improvement projects.
- Ongoing generating of monthly invoices to interns in public farmland housing and processing payments.
- 453 volunteer hours contributed to public farmland management, maintenance, improvement, and promotional work.

## Q3

### General

- Continued work on priority projects targeted for 2019 utilizing Friends of the Farms staff and volunteer base. Three more work parties focused on invasive species management were held at Suyematsu/Bentryn Farms and Johnson Farm.

### Johnson

- Secured donated time and equipment by Westerlund Tree Service to clear brush piles of winter storm downed limbs, invasive species, and general farm clean up. 10+ hours for two Westerlund employees over two days, using a large crane truck to sort and load debris.
- Organized and executed 7 volunteer work parties on Johnson farm in September aimed at invasive species management, general farm maintenance, and preparations for the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Harvest Fair.

- Hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Edible Garden Tour at the Johnson Farm P-Patch and three private gardens throughout the island. Sold-out event.
- Donation of equipment and services by Rob Ferguson, and volunteer base.
- Ongoing work with Vireo Farm owners to assist them in navigating the CoBI code and permitting requirements to allow for the indoor organic hydroponic garden structure on their leased parcel.
- Ongoing pest management to remove wasp nests in eaves and foundations of buildings.

### **Suyematsu-Bentryn Family Farms (Day Road)**

- Work with the Bainbridge Parks Foundation, BI Metro Park and Recreation District, COBI, to move forward on plans to continue the trail network on Suyematsu/Bentryn Farm and M&E.
- Coordination with COBI O&M to complete planned maintenance to fence rows, gravel roads, and three ditches used to divert water through the property.
- Organized and executed a volunteer work party with the Kitsap Conservation District to continue invasive species management along the headwaters of Manzanita Creek.
- Sublease farmers have identified ongoing issues with irrigation pond filtration systems. FotF is still working to collect more information on the issue and will report back on necessary repairs.



### **Crawford**

- Ongoing dialogue and exchange of information with CoBI, Gerard Bentryn, and Betsey Wittick regarding status of Bentryn's request to CoBI to comply with Shade Covenant.

### **M&E**

- At the request of Island School staff, began exploration of long-term engagement between FotF and the school to create curriculum incorporating regular hands-on activities for students at the Bainbridge Food Forest at M&E utilizing regenerative agriculture. First joint project slated for Spring 2020.
- Work with the Bainbridge Parks Foundation, BI Metro Park and Recreation District, COBI, to move forward on plans to continue the trail network on Suyematsu/Bentryn Farm and M&E.
- Continuing communication and one-on-one meetings with nearby property owners to inform and engage in the planning and development of the Bainbridge Food Forest.
- Ongoing coordination with CoBI staff on culvert removal and repairs. Point of contact for neighboring homeowners and public on work. Posted informational signage on property to keep public informed.

### **Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales**

- Coordinated and managed multiple moves of farm interns into and out of CoBI-owned farm houses as farmers staff turned over this quarter summer.



- Both the Suyematsu and Morales farmhouses have housed 11 interns this year to date. Coordinated applications, security deposits, and lease agreements with each intern/master farmer.
- Ongoing communication with farmhouse tenants with questions and provides processing of monthly rent.

### **P-Patch Management at Johnson Farm and Morales**

- Hosted the Edible Garden Tour at the Johnson Farm P-Patch in partnership with Bainbridge Prepares and several local food gardeners
- Continued support to p-patch gardeners at both locations.
- Secured donations of a new mower and weed whacker to the p-patch to help with continued maintenance.



### **Community**

- 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Fair
  - Planned and held the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Harvest Fair at Johnson Farm with the help of hundreds of volunteers dedicating hundreds of hours to supplement staff hours.
  - Worked with dozens of farmers, food vendors, nonprofits, and local businesses who donated time, products, and equipment to put on the event
  - Even with a rainy fair day, hundreds of island families and hundreds more visitors attended, met local farmers, listened to live music, ate local food, and enjoyed public farmland.
- At the invitation of Rotary, board and staff provided a 30-minute presentation during a Rotary luncheon on the Bainbridge Food Forest.
- Met with Deborah Rudnick of the CoBI Climate Action Committee and provided input on draft findings on local agriculture. Invited to present at Committee meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Ongoing meetings and dialogue with members of the Island Center Subarea Planning Committee and landowners on opportunities to incorporate local agriculture into planning work for the area.
- Began coordinating with Bainbridge Prepares Executive Director on community class onsite at the Bainbridge Food Forest to educate the public on safe and proper use of chainsaws to remove downed trees that may block access or present a hazard following a disaster or major storm event
- Participated in CoBI's Three Days of Preparedness to educate and inform the public about the Bainbridge Food Forest and its role in community education on increasing our local food production
- Executive Director Heather Burger was interviewed by the BI Arts & Humanities Council for a feature article on Johnson Farm and the history of Harvest Fair
- Program Manager Morgan Houk presented at a Kiwanis breakfast meeting on August 21<sup>st</sup>, advocating for local farms and food.
- Had a booth presence at the Bainbridge Island Farmers Market on August 17<sup>th</sup> and September 7<sup>th</sup>. Engaged with many community members about local agriculture, the

Bainbridge Food Forest, work parties, volunteer opportunities and events on public farmland.

- Scheduled programs at BARN, the Dayaalu Center, with local farmers focused on encouraging the community to engage with public farmland
- Met with BISD School Superintendent on existing and potential curriculum regarding regenerative agriculture, local food, and public farmland

#### Administration

- Ongoing meetings and work with Ellen Schroer on CoBI/FotF Master and extensive document preparation at the request of Council in advance of September 17 Study Session.
- Document review and phone meetings with representatives of the Historic Preservation Commission and CoBI staff regarding a grant proposal for structures at the Historic Suyematsu Farmstead.
- Coordinating with CoBI staff on 2019 maintenance, repair and improvement projects.
- Ongoing generating of monthly invoices to interns in public farmland housing and processing payments.
- **1,000 volunteer hours contributed this quarter** to public farmland management, maintenance, improvement, and promotional work.

#### Q4

##### General



- Per the terms of the Master Lease, FotF conducted 2019 Site Committee Meetings with all farmers on three farm properties with subleases (Suyematsu/Bentryn, Morales, and Johnson Farms). Based on farmer input during the meetings, drafted report on 2020 farmland maintenance priorities and submitted to COBI.
  - Continued work on priority projects targeted for 2019 utilizing Friends of the Farms staff and volunteer base.
- Johnson**
- Site work has begun for Vireo Hydroponics operations on Johnson Farm. FotF facilitated the final site visit and walkthrough by CoBI Building and Planning representative.
  - Met with Blaire O’Neal, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the National Institute of Food & Agriculture, with a grant to study innovative methods of food production, including hydroponic agriculture. Vireo Farm will be included in her study. A site visit and more in-depth interview are being considered for early 2020.
  - Winterized irrigation systems for commercial agricultural area and community p-patch.
  - Facilitated ongoing donation of equipment and services for farmland maintenance and improvements by FotF volunteer Rob Ferguson
  - Coordinated additional needed volunteer hours for farm maintenance and Harvest Fair cleanup.
  - Assisted the Bainbridge Island Fruit Club board in applying for a Rotary Grant to cover construction and installation of educational signage to the historic Johnson Farm orchard.

### Suyematsu-Bentryn Family Farms (Day Road)

- Coordinated with the Kitsap Conservation District and COBI to prioritize KCD crew for invasive species management and native plantings along Manzanita Creek.
- Ongoing coordination with COBI and Bentrins in regards to public easements and shared water resource management
- Continued coordination with COBI O&M to complete planned upgrades to the well house along Day Road.
- Ongoing communication and consultation with the Historic Preservation Commission regarding their desire to secure funding to restore the Suyematsu barn and conversations regarding securing funding for restoration of the picker cabin.
- Phone meetings with Eric Kortum of the Historic Preservation Commission regarding picker cabins and barn at the Historic Suyematsu Farmstead.

### Morales

- Completed a successful pilot of intern gardens with the help of Morales farmers. We hope to grow this project to allow farm interns a space to grow their own food and experiment with unique and interesting varieties.
- Coordination of payment of an unexpectedly high KPUD water bill between two farmers using this resource



### Crawford

- Ongoing meetings and exchange of information with CoBI, Gerard Bentryn, and Betsey Wittick regarding status of Bentryn's request to CoBI to comply with Shade Covenant.

### M&E

- Ongoing correspondence and meetings with Island School educators and administrators regarding long-term engagement to create curriculum incorporating regular hands-on activities for students at the Bainbridge Food Forest at M&E utilizing regenerative agriculture. First joint project slated for Spring 2020.
- Coordinated with Sustainable Bainbridge/Weed Warriors to remove holly at the BFF for a third year. Helped publicize and recruit volunteers. Holly was removed and used to make holiday decorations that were sold at the Senior Center to raise funds.
- Work with the Bainbridge Parks Foundation, BI Metro Park and Recreation District, COBI, to move forward on plans to continue the trail network on Suyematsu/Bentryn Farm and M&E.
- Held a guided tour of the Bainbridge Food Forest site for approximately 20 community members. Farmer Russell Lawson shared his knowledge of microrhizomes and donated 20 oyster mushroom kits to the visitors.
- Meetings with Eric Mader of the Xerces Society/Northwest Meadowscapes and Juan Rovalo of Biohabitats. FotF will engage both to consult and advise on a Master Plan for the Food Forest.
- Ongoing monitoring of Manzanita creek following culvert removal.

### **Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales**

- Coordinated intern moves from both farmhouses throughout October and November including formal checkout process and intern surveys. Two interns are remaining through the winter at the Morales farmhouse.
- Completed extensive cleanup of the Suyematsu farmhouse after interns moved out. Security deposits returned to reflect the approximate cost of this work.
- Continue to monitor the Suyematsu Farmhouse over the winter with the heat set to low in order to keep the water on for intern use of the basement washer/dryer.
- Purchased a new refrigerator for the Morales farmhouse when current fridge proved unfixable.
- Diagnosed two leaks in the Morales farmhouse bathroom. One was fixable by FOF staff, the second required hiring a professional plumber and will require additional framing and drywall repairs completed by FOF staff and volunteers.
- Suyematsu and Morales farmhouses housed 11 interns in 2019. The demand for housing continues to increase, with many more requests for housing than could be provided. Also, the demand for intern and new farmer housing is no longer seasonal, but year-round, with Morales and/or Suyematsu housing people all 12 months of 2019. FotF coordinated applications, security deposits, and lease agreements with each intern/master farmer.

### **P-Patch Management at Johnson Farm and Morales**

- Winterized small equipment used for p-patch maintenance and the irrigation system connected to both the p-patch and commercial agricultural areas.

### **Community**

- Met with a student at Sakai who is interested in educating the public about Marshall strawberries and reintroducing them across Bainbridge Island through sales at farmers' market and elsewhere. She is ¼ Japanese and her grandparents were interned at Manzanar. We are exploring the possibility of her growing some Marshall strawberries on public farmland where Akio Suyematsu, who also was interned at Manzanar, grew berries.
- Met with a student at Hyla who is doing a project for her journalism class. Was able to provide her with information regarding the history of farming on public farmland and how that legacy is being carried forward.
- Ongoing meetings and dialogue with members of the Island Center Subarea Planning Committee and landowners on opportunities to incorporate local agriculture into planning work for the area.

### **Administration**

- Ongoing meetings and work with Ellen Schroer on CoBI/FotF Master revisions and process for 2020.
- Ongoing coordination with CoBI staff on 2019 maintenance, repair and improvement projects.
- Ongoing generating of monthly invoices to interns in public farmland housing and processing payments.
- **305 volunteer hours contributed this quarter** to public farmland management, maintenance, improvement, and promotional work.



**6. Conclusion**



Friends of the Farms thanks you for the opportunity to share this report and to work alongside you to preserve and protect our public farmland.

**Submitted by,**  
*Heather Burger*  
**Executive Director**





2019 Summary of Expenses for Public Farmland Management  
(Cash Basis)

Income	Day Rd	Morales	Johnson	M&E	Crawford	Suyematsu Historic Area	Public Farmland General	Management	Total Public Farmland
EARNED INCOME									
Interest Income									-
Lease / Rents									-
Rent	\$6,140	\$6,765	\$810						\$13,715
Lease	\$5,514	\$919	\$432						\$6,865
Total Lease / Rents	\$11,654	\$7,684	\$1,242						\$20,580
Total EARNED INCOME	\$11,654	\$7,684	\$1,242						\$20,580
Total CONTRIBUTED INCOME			\$873				\$48,750		\$49,623
Total Income	\$11,654	\$7,684	\$2,115	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$48,750	\$0	\$70,203
Expense									
Operations	\$1,120	\$828	\$640	\$1,071	\$390	\$243	\$1,760	\$5,839	\$11,891
Repairs & Maint	\$4,319	\$780	\$416	\$10					\$5,525
Payroll	\$2,549	\$760	\$5,059	\$6,260	\$185	\$403	\$18,034	\$22,239	\$55,489
Utilities	\$4,180	\$3,638	\$483						\$8,301
Total Expenses	\$12,168	\$6,006	\$6,598	\$7,341	\$575	\$646	\$19,794	\$28,078	\$81,206
Net Income	(\$514)	\$1,678	(\$4,483)	(\$7,341)	(\$575)	(\$646)	\$28,956	(\$28,078)	(\$11,003)

Volunteer Hours Contributed: 2,022 X \$16/hour = \$32,352