## FRIENDS OF THE FARMS 2020 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 ensure the future of local farming and build a healthier community through a resilient and equitable food ecosystem.

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:

- Affordable housing and farmable land for the agricultural community
- Permanent protection of the existing and potential agricultural land base
- 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 farm interns, 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
- Storage buildings, sheds, and barns
- Roads
- Trail networks
- Public open space/grass
- 14 p-patch garden plots

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.

Agricultural Property Name	Location	Size (acres)
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
TOTAL ACREAGE		60.86

## A. <u>Summary of City-owned Agricultural Land Leased by Friends of the Farms</u>

## 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. <u>Quantification of produce and products from</u> <u>designated leased properties</u>

In 2020 farmers on public land grew 111,961 pounds of produce. Happy free-roaming chickens laid 901 dozen eggs, more than double last's year's production, along with 104 dozen quail eggs from Vireo Farm's new parcel. Also, 460 flats of plant starts were sold to local homegardeners, and 145 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. The Market had a challenging year as a result of COVID. Market revenue in 2020 was \$337,000, down from \$511,799 in 2019 and revenue to individual farmers was down as well.

While farm sales to restaurants have been significantly impacted by closures due to Covid, 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, Harbor Pub, Hitchcock, Jake's Pickup, Pegasus, Marché, Mossback, Proper Fish, 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, and tomato sauce from Butler Green Farms.

As they have for many years, farmers on publicly owned farmland, including Peaceful Morning Farm, Bainbridge Island Farms, Butler Green Farms, Laughing Crow Farm, and Vireo Farm give back to benefit vulnerable populations by donating fresh, healthy food to the foodbank at Helpline House.

## **Quantification of Produce and Products in 2020**

Quantities are in pounds unless otherwise indicated

Name	Location	Produce	Quantity
Laughing Crow Farm	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	uyematsu– Bentyrn Potatoes	
Betsey Wittick		Garlic	900
		Garlic Scapes	150
		Onions	2,300
		Shallots	200
			800
		Total quantity	9,350 lbs
Bainbridge Island	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Siegerrebe	4,050
Vineyards		Madeleine Angevine	9,585
Betsey Wittick		Mueller Thurgau	4,465
		Pinot Gris	1,300
		Total quantity	19,400 lbs
Bainbridge Island Farms	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Raspberries	5,000
Karen Selvar		Pumpkins	58,000
		Winter Squash	1,500
		Total quantity	64,500 lbs
Butler Green Farms	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Greens	340
Brian MacWhorter		Beans	375
		Carrots	410
		Beets	125

		Broccoli	120
		Cauliflower	67
		Summer Squash	625
		Artichokes	45
		Herbs	60
		Flowers	60 bunches
		Eggs	880 dozen
		Total quantity	2,167 lbs
Butler Green Farms	Morales Farm	Greens	515
Brian MacWhorter		Broccoli	130
		Cauliflower	90
		Tomatoes	1,850
		Spinach	200
		Carrots	830
		Strawberries	30
		Onions	475
		Beets	220
		Summer Squash	120
		Lettuce	280
		Cucumbers	80
		Herbs	40
		Plant Starts	460 flats
		Flowers	85 bunches
		Total quantity	4,860 lbs
Perennial Vintners Mike Lempriere	Morales Farm	Melon de Bourgogne	859
		Total quantity	859 lbs
Perennial Vintners	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Madeliene Angevine	215
Mike Lempriere		Mueller Thurgau	295
		Total quantity	500 lbs
Peaceful Morning Farm	Morales Farm	Brussels Sprouts	100
John Chang		Cabbage	200
C C		Kale	1,250
		Arugula	100
		Chard	1,300
		Spinach	100
		Beets	900
		Winter Squash	1,750
		Corn	825
		Strawberries	250
		Leeks	225
		Potatoes	350
		Beans	40
		Peas	25
		Basil	45
		Broccoli	100

		Lettuce	90
		Garlic	110
		Total quantity	7,760 lbs
Heyday Farm	Johnson Farm	Broccoli	145
		Cauliflower	75
		Sweet Corn	275
		Lettuce	65
		Strawberries	1,450
		Total quantity	2,010 lbs
Paulson Farm	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	Nursery trees	N/A
Mike Paulson			
Vireo Farm	Johnson Farm	Shelling Peas	75
Mark Taylor and Tracy		Beans	110
Lang		Basil	25
		Cucumbers	90
		Hops	15
		Tomatoes	90
		Squash	25
		Lettuce	125
		Quail Eggs	104 dozen
		Chicken eggs	21 dozen
		Total quantity	555 lbs
		Total All Farms	111,961 lbs

## 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 publicly owned 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.) In 2019, Friends of the Farms executed a lease with Vireo for the island's first indoor organic hydroponic farm.

Sublease terms range from 12 to 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.

Name	Location Parcel Number	Acreage	Lease Rate (acre/year)	Duration (years)	
Laughing Crow Farm	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	1.19	\$334	25	
Betsey Wittick	102502-1-063-2005	1.19	Ş <b>3</b> 34	25	
		3.34	\$334	25	
Bainbridge Island Vineyard	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	3.34	Ş334	25	
Betsey Wittick	102502-1-063-2005		4004		
Bainbridge Island Farms	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	6.82	\$334	25	
(now Suyematsu Farms)	102502-1-063-2005				
Karen Selvar					
Butler Green Farms	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	2.54	\$334	25	
Brian MacWhorter	102502-1-063-2005				
Butler Green Farms	Morales Farm	1.7	\$290	25	
Brian MacWhorter	102502-1-062-2006				
Perennial Vintners	Morales Farm	.4	\$290	25	
Mike Lempriere	102502-1-062-2006				
Perennial Vintners	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	yrn .59 \$2		25	
Mike Lempriere	102502-1-063-2005				
John Chang's Garden	Morales Farm	.67	\$290	12	
John Chang	102502-1-062-2006				
Heyday Farm	Johnson Farm	1.6	\$170	12	
	282502-2-064-2002				
Paulson Farm	Suyematsu– Bentyrn	1.44	\$334	24	
Mike Paulson	102502-1-063-2005				
Vireo Farm	Johnson Farm	1.0	\$170	21	
Mark Taylor & Tracy Lang	282502-2-064-2002				
Total Acreage		21.29			

## Summary of Farmer Sub-Leases in 2020

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

Per the Master Lease agreement, Friends of the Farms acts as the fiscal agent for earned revenue from publicly owned farmland use. In 2020 earned income from farmer leases was \$6,536. Tenant rent from housing was \$0, down from \$12,905 in 2019, following the closure of Morales and Suyematsu Houses due to needed repairs. Lease money from 14 community P-Patch garden plots and shed rental generated \$1,010. Expenses for publicly owned farmland management totaled \$79,160. Details of publicly owned farmland revenue and expenses are attached at the end of this report.

Following funding requests to CoBI, City Council approved a payment of \$72,000 for management services on public farmland in 2020, up from \$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. Funding for 2021 was reduced back to \$65,000.

In late 2019 an ad hoc committee of three Council members was formed to review the publicly owned farmland management structure and make recommendations. Due to Covid, this work was put off in 2020. The ad hoc committee has begun meeting regularly with Friends of the Farms in 2021.

## D. <u>Schedule and status for farm-related capital improvements</u>

Friends of the Farms monitors the farmer subleases and oversees farm-related capital improvements on all five publicly owned farmland properties. The Projects Committee gathers input from leasehold farmers through the Site Committee Process with participation by 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. In May 2020 most CoBI farmland major maintenance projects were cancelled for budget and staffing reasons in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Work that continued during 2020 included:

- Worked with the Department of Ecology to plan additional fuel tank remediation steps at the Suyematsu farm
- Performed emergency service work on pond irrigation pump
- Continued annual mowing/clearing of fence lines
- Continued annual gravel replenishment in parking areas and on roads at Day Road farms

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

In addition to agricultural activities by farmers with subleases, publicly owned farmland is used extensively throughout the year by the broader community. While many organized events had to be postponed on publicly owned farmland due to Covid in 2020, use by individuals and families was greater than ever, as our community sought safe ways to enjoy natural settings, wildlife, gather in open space, and for outdoor recreation.

Farm stand sales at Suyematsu-Bentryn farm was moved outside under a tent this year to keep the public safe as a result of COVID. In 2020 local farmers sold 10,000 pounds of locally grown produce and 200 bulbs of garlic at the farm stand to the public during the growing season.

Suyematsu Benti yn runni Stana 2020 Sales							
Onions	150	Strawberries	8,000				
Salad Greens	200	Sweet Corn	1,000				
Tomatoes	150	Kale	50				
Beets	150	Potatoes	200				
Broccoli, Cauliflower	100	Garlic	200 bulbs				
and Cabbage							

Suyematsu-Bentryn Farm Stand 2020 Sales





## Friends of the Farms Farmland Stewardship

When not restricted by Covid, there are volunteer opportunities for all ages throughout the year at various public farmland properties.

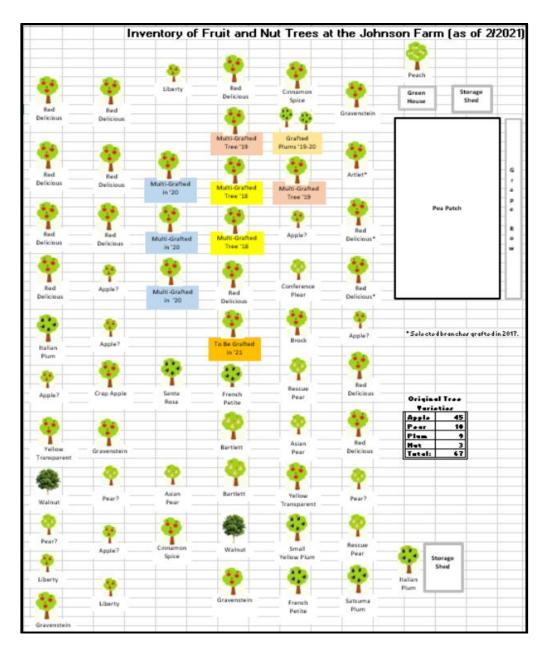
Together, volunteers help maintain and enhance each property, donating thousands of hours of time. They also donate tools and equipment that otherwise would need to be rented or purchased at significant cost. The community reaps the benefits through this work of invasive species removal, trail construction, general maintenance, and completion of capital projects.

## Bainbridge Island Fruit Club Orchard Maintenance.

Since 2014, the Bainbridge Island Fruit Club's (BIFC) has worked through a Memorandum of Understanding with Friends of the Farms to maintain and improve the historic orchard at Johnson Farm.

## Inventory of Johnson Farm Fruit Trees

To date, BIFC has identified about 80 percent of the 67 fruit trees adjacent to the Johnson Farm Pea Patch. These include: apple (45), pear (10), plum (9), and walnut (3). Of the apple varieties, nearly half are Red Delicious. 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.



#### Grafting

In 2020, grafting of trees pruned in 2019 continued, adding 11 new varieties of apples and 2 new varieties of plums. Seasonal pruning and clean-up was done for trees being restored over the last few years. Over the spring and summer of 2021, BIFC will prune additional apple trees and continue grafting new varieties onto existing trees being restored.

Successful Apple Grafts on Red Delicious Trees in 2020 (Severely Pruned):

- Trees 8 (4 Ashmead's Kernel, 1 Golden Russet, 3 Hudson Golden Gem, 3 Oliver, 6 Roxbury Russet, and 5 Zabergau Reinette)
- Tree 9 (2 North Pole, and 1 Scarlet Sentinel)
- Tree 10 (2 Enterprise, 1 Freedom, 3 Kingston Black, and 1 Macoun)

## Grapes

BIFC assists Johnson Farm P-Patchers in pruning a large existing grape row. The grapes, represent three to four different varieties of table and wine grapes. *Although most of the grapes have seeds (similar to* Concord grapes), a BIFC board member was successful in using the pickings to make several gallons of delicious dark pink to purple grape juice.

## **Orchard Fruit Production**

Anyone visiting the Johnson Farm orchard in 2016 through 2020, would have noticed a significant difference in the amount of fruit production. For example, 2016, 2018, and 2020 were plentiful years, with most of the trees producing significant amounts of fruit. Several apple and pear trees had so much fruit in 2016 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 fruit 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.

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). Apple maggot damage was nearly non-existent in all of Kitsap County in 2018, which is unusual. Although there was some damage at the Johnson Farm, it was extremely minimal compared to other years. Tent caterpillars were also abundant between 2017-2019, although less of a problem in 2020.

#### **Educational Signage**

In September 2020, the Western Cascade Fruit Society approved a nearly \$3,000 grant to establish five educational/interactive signs at the Johnson Farm orchard. BIFC is collaborating with Friends of the Farms on design, content, and placement for the signs, to be installed late 2021.

## 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.

#### Future Plans

- Continue pruning of old growth/deadwood and grafting of new varieties.
- Plant several new (non-apple) fruit trees to increase diversity within the orchard. Some new varieties being considered including more pear and apple trees, as well as addition of several figs, cornelian, and apricot.
- Continue efforts to identify unknown fruit trees and grapes.
- Install educational signs/placards in orchard in 2021.
- Continue educating the public on the various fruit varieties and grafting/pruning efforts as part of any upcoming events (one the Pandemic ends) and club tours.

## **P-Patch Plots**



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

#### **Community Engagement**



## Community Apple Glean And Island- Grown Cider

With many annual community events postponed this year due to Covid, FotF found ways to keep our community safely connected with publicly owned farmland.

In fall 2020 we held our first Community Apple Glean, utilizing Johnson Farm as a no-contact drop off. Over 2,000 pounds of apples were collected and donated by dozens of families from all across the Island.



FotF volunteers harvested bushels of apples from the historic orchard on Johnson Farm to add to the mix. Local farmer and ciderist, Michael Chick, pressed the apples, and blended and bottled the juice. It has been undergoing fermentation over the winter and in late spring 2021 we will release 45 cases of a Bainbridge-grown French style hard cider under the St-Lô Cider label. The cider will be sold in local shops and restaurants and, if we can safely gather, at a late spring release party on Johnson Farm. Sale proceeds will fund projects by Friends of the Farms New Farmer Advisory Committee. We will hold another glean in fall 2021 with plans in the works for apple kombucha as well as hard cider.

#### Springbrook Creek Preserve

The Bainbridge Island Land Trust continues to utilize Johnson Farm as the launching point for regularly scheduled guided tours of the Springbrook Creek Preserve and a nearby parcel they have secured.

#### **Public Trails**



In a year like no other, our community sought solace in nature and much-needed outdoor exercise. An extensive trail network throughout the public farm properties allows 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 460 sightings of 140 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 and staff provide socially distanced guided farm tours on publicly owned farmland. 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 Karen Selvar's pumpkin patch at Suyematsu-Bentryn Farm. It is an annual ritual for families with thousands of visitors in October 2020. Visitors were particularly grateful this year to have the opportunity to be outside and share this joyful annual event. Extra precautions were taken to ensure social distancing, with multiple tents and checkout sites spread throughout the farm.

July is raspberry u-pick time This year u-pickers harvested 3,500 pounds of berries.



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 publicly owned 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.



#### Housing



The pandemic and the unavailability in 2020 of both Morales and Suvematsu farmhouses created an affordable housing crisis for farmers. CoBI and Friends of the Farms worked together to try to secure alternative affordable housing for interns who had already been hired by farmers, but with concerns around shared housing due to Covid, this was not successful. Interns, working for and learning from the island's seasoned farmers need somewhere safe and local to stay. New farmers, ready to start their own businesses and provide food for our community, need affordable land and housing to become established. A lack of affordable housing threatens the viability of the Island's farming economy.

In early 2021 Friends of the Farms received a CoBI building permit allowing us to make repairs to the existing Morales farmhouse and prepare it for occupancy later in the year. We also received permission from Council to apply for a building permit to construct three new satellite bedrooms at Morales Farm to provide additional housing.

## **Education and Community Service**

#### Island School



As schools closed in 2020 FotF partnered with Island School educators for online and hands-on outdoor curricula and the Bainbridge Food Forest. We presented Zoom classes on pollinators, and students visited farms with mason bee boxes for observational learning. Some built their own bee boxes for the school and home. Collaboration continued throughout the year for onsite learning. This spring each student will plant and care for a seedling in the Food Forest donated by Friends of the Farms as they learn about First Peoples, native food plants, and environmental stewardship. The ultimate goal of this collaboration is to make these curricula available to the rest of the Island's public and private schools.

#### Victory Garden

It became apparent early in 2020 that the pandemic would bring significant economic challenges to members of our community as businesses closed and many lost their jobs and income. Helpline House would face an increase in demand at their food bank, particularly for fresh, nutritious food as people fought illness.

To help address that need, FotF utilized a patch of land at Morales Farm to create a Victory Garden, and planted produce from spring to early winter. The crops were harvested weekly and 100% donated to Helpline



House. Brian MacWhorter, who farms at Morales, Johnson, and Suyematsu-Bentryn farms donated staff time, plant starts, and tools and equipment for the garden, which was tended by FotF staff and volunteers.

Maria Metzler, Executive Director at Helpline House reports that in 2020, 193 <u>new</u> households on the Island utilized the foodbank for the first time. Maria shared that "Folks 100% prefer fresh produce ...we can never have too much." FotF is expanding the Victory Garden in 2021 to help provide additional fresh food for those facing ongoing challenges in our community.

## **Bainbridge Native Food Forest**



FotF staff and volunteers met with CoBI Arborist Nick Snyder regarding a permit to clear invasive species at M&E. He slightly expanded the clearing area from what was included without the need for amendment of the original application. Following receipt of the permit from the City of Bainbridge Island, extensive mowing of invasive species and brush clearing was completed in September by Westerlund Tree Services, along with assistance from FotF board, staff, and volunteers. Westerlund removed invasive species such as blackberry and scotch broom with the goal of establishing a series of pollinator meadows in the fall of 2021 after a summer of regular mowing, followed by establishing native food plants along pathways. This work is funded by private donations to Friends of the Farms.

## 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 in the Master Lease
- 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 2020 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 publicly owned farmland maintenance, repairs, and improvements. CoBI and FotF work together to create a Master Maintenance list for all publicly owned farmland, create budgets, and prioritize projects.

## 5. Summary of 2020 Services Provided by Friends of the Farms

## Q1/2020

## General

 Invoiced and processed payments and associated required documents from all publicly owned farmland farmers.

## Johnson

- Installed native Mason Bee boxes at Johnson Farm. Provided public with information on native pollinators and observation opportunities on the farm. Working closely with the Island School administration to coordinate a Zoom presentation with all six grades and introduce them to native pollinators and the public farmland.
- Coordinating with BILT to offer parking for early tours of their newest property, just across the street from the farm.
- Ongoing coordination with Bainbridge Island Fruit Club to offer free educational opportunities to the public this fall.

## Suyematsu-Bentryn

- Coordinated with publicly owned farmland farmer Mike Paulson for spring maintenance and startup of the Suyematsu/Bentryn Farm irrigation system.
- Worked with CoBI and Kitsap Conservation District to install and mulch dozens of native plants along the headwaters of Manzanita Creek. Also coordinated with KCD's crew to complete a major invasives weeding project along Manzanita Creek. Both projects are part of long term and ongoing work to restore the creek, enhance the environment, and minimize runoff from surrounding farming activities.

## M&E/Bainbridge Native Food Forest

- Signed contract with Biohabitats for an ecological assessment of the site.
- Received commitment from Westerlund Tree Services for weedy vegetation clearing.
- Received clearing permit from CoBI to remove invasive species.
- Lead board-hosted Sunday Social dogwalking tours of the site (On COVID hold)
- Met with the Xerces Society and the Audubon Society for walk-throughs and consultation.
- Scheduling meeting with neighbors to update on planning and engagement.
- Ongoing engagement with NW Meadowscapes in preparation for native planting once invasive clearing is complete.
- Installed native Mason Bee boxes to offer an outdoor learning opportunity to Island



School students. Working closely with the Island School administration to coordinate a Zoom presentation with all six grades and introduce them to native pollinators and the future Food Forest.

#### Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales

- Managed intern housing application process. Given uncertainty earlier this year around the availability of CoBI-owned housing due to needed repairs, only five intern applications were accepted.
- Following the temporary closure of both CoBI farmhouses, two farmers and three interns sought Friends of the Farms assistance finding temporary housing while work is completed at the Morales farm house. We successfully found no cost housing through community members for the three interns through May 30, 2020 and continue to follow leads for low cost housing for these three interns throughout the summer.
- Completed significant clean up at the Suyematsu farm house after intern tenants moved out. Further cleaning was anticipated but is on hold due to temporary closure of the house.
- Conducted the 2020 housing inspections with Aaron Poole and Joel Goodwin and were present during subsequent additional inspections with other CoBI employees.
- Took fire extinguishers to Peninsula Fire for their annual maintenance and inspection.

## Community

- Public events, work parties, and social gatherings are on hold due to shelter in place requirements, so Friends of the Farms is aggressively engaging with the public via online and social media outlets. Our March E-newsletter had 2,337 opens as of 3-31.
- Advocated for local farms and local food purveyors and links to where to buy.
- Advocated for spring home gardens to include dedicated produce for Helpline House.
- Provided information to public on food safety in the time of Covid.
- Provided information about a publicly owned farmland farmer providing produce for the Bainbridge Island School District's Grab-and-Go Meals, a partnership created by Friends of the Farms.
- Provided information on FotF's mason bee pollinator project at Johnson and Morales
- Met with Housing Resources Board to discuss potential opportunities for long-term solutions to farm intern and new farmer affordable housing needs.

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

- Coordinated the application process for 2020 P-Patch gardens. One patch came open this spring due to the passing of a long time garden community member. A wonderful new gardener from the wait list is excitedly preparing their new plot for the growing season.
- Used CDC guidelines to put together a sanitizing and social distancing regimen for gardeners at the p-patch, providing all materials necessary for gardeners to properly sanitize shared tools and spaces.
- Completed maintenance on the p-patch fence including purchasing and installing a new gate, and updating failing deer fencing.

#### New Publicly Owned Farmland Programing

- Working with farmers and other island organizations to build and plant a Victory Garden at Morales Farm. The garden will provide seasonal fruits and vegetables for Helpline House and serve as a demonstration garden for islanders interested in growing food for their family and community.
- Working closely with the Island School to utilize public farmland for outdoor learning, starting with native pollinators.

## Administration

- Wrote and submitted to CoBI the required annual report on public farmland management and farm operations.
- Ongoing engagement with City Council Ad Hoc Committee on public farmland management. Provided information on all five publicly owned farmland properties that included:
  - Current Uses
  - Goal Recommendations
  - Ongoing Necessary Maintenance and Repairs
  - Current Capital Repairs and Replacements Needed
  - Desirable Long-term Improvements to Enhance Public Benefit
  - Current Programs, Events, and Activities
  - Community Partners
- Ongoing engagement with CoBI staff and Council regarding housing for farm interns in CoBI-owned farmhouses.
- Reviewed and executed Amendment No. 2 to the Friends of the Farms and CoBI Master Lease and Management Agreement.

## Q2/2020

## General

While stay-at-home orders beginning late March due to COVID created disruptions in events and activities, Friends of the Farms' day-to-day work of maintaining publicly owned farmland properties continues uninterrupted.

With local farmers on and off public land losing revenue due to restaurant and farmers' market closures, we sent a survey to find out how we could best help our community. The overwhelming response indicated marketing and providing information to connect farmers to consumers and consumers to farmers. FotF contacted dozens of local farmers, restaurants and grocers who provide locally-grown food, and created a *Fresh Sheet* on our website, updated every few weeks, with what is in available now for purchase, where, and when. It has been opened over 5,000 times in the past three months. Combined with information in frequent newsletters and Facebook, we have connected thousands of people to local food options and supported our local food economy.



Some things have not been able to move forward to date, such as the Council Ad Hoc Committee meetings on recommendations for public farmland management. Two tours of publicly owned farmland have been scheduled, but were not able to go forward.

Regular check-in meetings have continued remotely between Ellen Schroer and FotF ED.

#### Morales

- Planted and harvested fresh vegetables from the Friends of the Farms' Victory Garden for donation to Helpline House. Donations of plants, materials and supplies were given by Friends of the Farms board and Butler Green Farms.
- Completed general weed-eating and maintenance in and around the common spaces of the Morales Farm.
- Worked with Kitsap Noxious Weed and sublease farmer John Chang to coordinate the free disposal of scotch broom from the farm boarders. Farmer Chang and volunteers did the removal work.
- Met with COBI staff member to tour the property and discuss water recharge on the farm as it relates to the island-wide study.

#### Johnson

- Upon inspection of the Johnson Farm pond pump, Gresham Well Pump & Drilling found issues with the pump that made it inoperable. FotF authorized Gresham's crew to install a new pump and paid the cost of \$2,041.07. Gresham with be conducting annual maintenance of the pump in the future and drafting a recommendation for short and long-term maintenance, improvements, along with a schedule of life expectancy of the various components. FotF will share this information with CoBI when we receive it.
- Completed spring cleaning and assisted with mowing in community areas of the farm with help from our longtime neighbor/volunteer.
- Communicated with Kitsap Noxious Weed about the location and spraying of poison hemlock on the Johnson Farm. No spraying has yet occurred.

#### Suyematsu-Bentryn

- Approved startup and additional maintenance to the Suyematsu/Bentryn pump. Cost was \$572.25.
- Emergency repairs were needed to the pond pump motor. FotF worked directly with Red's Electric to complete the necessary repairs and to reinstall the motor and test the system. It took just over one week to troubleshoot the damage and have the pump repaired and reinstalled and we were in communication with farmers affected by the repairs throughout the process. The cost of these additional repairs was \$923.78.
- In order to avoid more unexpected and costly repairs in the future, Friends of the Farms has begun a relationship with Gresham Pump and Drilling who will conduct further annual maintenance to the system.
- Reminded sublease farmers of their responsibility to track their irrigation use. A Google Form has been created for them to easily send us this information.
- Connected two Sakai Students, Sadie (12) and Amelia (10) to public farmland farmer Brian MacWhorter. Last year Sadie and Amelia started a school project to reintroduce Marshall strawberries to Bainbridge and educate people about their connection to our history. Farmer Brian is sharing a small portion of his subleased space at Day Road with the girls to expand their project. Under his tutelage they will plant Marshall berry starts in the area that was historically the Suyematsu Family kitchen garden on their strawberry farm.
- Connected with the Bainbridge Island History Museum to explore a collaborative project as they have Marshall berries on the museum property that need to be relocated.
   Additionally, plans are in the works for the FotF Executive Director to join the museum curator in a video about the historic farms on Bainbridge.

#### **M&E/Bainbridge Native Food Forest**

- Following the success of three remote learning classes taught to Island School students by FotF Program Manager Morgan Houk on mason bees and their role as pollinators on public farmland, Island School approached us to partner with them to design additional curriculum for their students. Together we are crafting onsite and Zoom or in-class learning on different elements of the Bainbridge Native Food Forest at M&E. Working with educators Mike Derzon and Amanda Ward students will engage in hands on learning and create an online and print field guide to the Food Forest with a different focus for the various grades.
- Opened a dialogue with Grace Church, Island School, and the Parks Foundation to try to resolve the easement/trail access from Island School for their students to the Food Forest/M&E.
- Informed CoBI that while on a regular walkthrough of the property it was noted that CoBI Road Closed signs and caution tape intended to prevent public access to the culvert had been removed. Morgan Houk has replaced the signs and tape and we will continue to monitor.

#### Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales

- Following the CoBI closure of the Suyematsu and Morales Farmhouses, FotF and CoBI worked together to seek alternative housing for three displaced interns. FotF identified no-cost housing for March, April, and May. Neither CoBI nor FotF could secure housing for June October, primarily due to Covid concerns by homeowners. The two affected farmers eventually were able to locate housing for their interns, but it was at greater expense. FotF is providing the farmers with a stipend to help offset their costs.
- Formed a project committee to investigate alternative short and long-term housing options for new farmers and farm interns. Affordable housing is critical if farming is to remain viable on Bainbridge Island.

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

- Provided informational signage, sanitizers, and educational information to the p-patch gardeners to comply with state, county and city regulations in accordance with COVID-19.
- Worked with the p-patch volunteer manager to enlist new gardeners from the waitlist for a few available garden spaces. The garden is fully occupied.

#### **New Publicly Owned Farmland Programing**

 As a result of restrictions on gathering and social distancing and to ensure the health and safety of our community as a result of Covid, new and existing programming, volunteer work parties, and events on public farmland have been suspended.

## Q3/2020

#### General

- Coordinated timing of work with CoBI O&M and public farmland farmers for seasonal work to prevent interference with farm operations. Work included clearing along the fences at the M&E and Suyematsu Farms, spreading the allocated annual 40 yards of gravel, and regrading some of the farm roads at Suyematsu and Morales.
- FotF Board Chair, Executive Director, and Program Manager provided Council members Deets, Hytopoulos, and Nassar with a tour of publicly owned farmland. The three Council members comprise an Ad Hoc committee on publicly owned farmland management.
- Following the tour, FotF fulfilled a request from the CoBI ad hoc committee on farmland management to provide them with documentation on how staff time is allocated and work done on their behalf, and with budget detail. Also included was information on goals and policies in the CoBI current comprehensive plan calling for CoBI support of local farms and food.
- Worked with publicly owned farmland farmers to ensure a smooth transition to Sarah Jo Ward as Program Manager and review remaining 2020 publicly owned farmland projects.
- Ongoing communication, coordination, and Zoom meetings with CoBI staff.
- In addition to the work done by FotF staff, FotF volunteers provided 584 hours in Q3 for public farmland.

## Morales

- Planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting of fresh vegetables continues. FotF donated and installed a drip irrigation system to the garden. 100% of the harvest is donated weekly to Helpline House. FotF board and community members provide ongoing donations of plant starts throughout the year.
- Ongoing maintenance of common areas of the farm, including removal of blackberries leading to well house.
- With assistance from a leasehold farmer, invasive horsetail was removed from adjacent common areas. Disposal was provided by Kitsap Noxious Weed at Bainbridge Disposal.
- A leak was discovered in the KPUD water line adjacent the p-patch, Victory Garden, and common area. The leak was repaired and FotF will continue to monitor the system with assistance from sublease farmers.
- Working with Morales sublease farmers to efficiently manage water use from the well and KPUD hookup.
   Farmers will purchase their own meters and meter their well water use. FOF will coordinate with COBI on installing a master meter on the well, determine the general capacity of the well.



#### Johnson

- Interim FotF Program Manager, Sarah Ward, connected with p-patch gardeners to learn about their needs for next year and to prepare the p-patch for winter. The garden is again full and a new waitlist is growing. The gardeners are doing a great job of mowing the garden and Sarah has helped with weed eating cleanup.
- Repaired the P-Patch exterior fence including setting a few new posts that had rotted.

- FotF staff onsite at Johnson noted a break in an irrigation line causing flooding at Heyday Farm's leased parcel on a Sunday afternoon. Farmer Brian MacWhorter was immediately notified and the leak promptly repaired.
- Treated and removed wasps building homes in the greenhouse.
- Ongoing meetings and communication with Johnson Farm neighbors regarding farming operations on the property.
- Extensive cleanup and inventory at the red storage shed on the property.
- Mowing continues at Johnson Farm by FotF volunteers. FotF staff and volunteers supplement mowing with weed eating along fence lines and around buildings.
- Ongoing communication with Kitsap Noxious Weed regarding their desire to spray to invasive hemlock near the irrigation pond. This would not occur without discussion with CoBI and adjacent farmers and gardeners.

#### Suyematsu-Bentryn

- Multiple meetings, conversations, and email communications have taken place among FotF board, staff, and farmers regarding irrigation at the Day Road farmland. Extensive research has been done into history of system, the Warranty Deed conveying water rights, CoBI and Bentryn responsibilities for the system, and FotF's role. A spreadsheet has been created and shared with CoBI and the Bentryn's outlining maintenance, monitoring, repair, and improvements to facilitate conversations among the responsible parties.
- An employee of a Day Road leasehold farmer ran over an irrigation spigot on the main line of the Suyematsu/Bentryn irrigation system with a tractor. FotF repaired the damage and restored operation to the system.
- For a second time this summer, the irrigation system at Day Road shut down due to ongoing problems with the pump and water levels in the ponds. FotF sought assistance at the second instance from CoBI staff in determining the approach to be taken and initiating repairs.
- The informational and wayfinding signage provided installed by FotF was relocated near the new farm stand location at the request of farmer Karen Selvar to allow for greater visibility by the public.
- Ongoing communication with COBI to coordinate continued groundwater monitoring for this fall and communication with the Suyematsu leasehold farmers on when to expect disturbance in and around the farmhouse.

#### M&E/Bainbridge Native Food Forest

- FotF and Island School educators and administrators continue to craft learning experiences on different elements of the Bainbridge Native Food Forest at M&E.
- Following the success of three remote learning classes taught to Island School students by FotF, FotF staff accompanied school staff and students into the Food Forest for onsite learning about the history of the land. Students and educators then helped remove noxious weeds as part of preparing the land for restoration and planting of native species in the spring.
   Informed Ellen Schroer that Road



- Closed signs and caution tape intended to prevent public access to the culvert at M&E had been removed again. FotF staff replaced the signs and tape and we will continue to monitor.
- Extensive mowing of invasive species and brush clearing was completed in September by Westerlund Tree Services along with assistance from FotF board, staff, and volunteers.
- FotF staff and volunteers met with CoBI Arborist Nick Snyder regarding the permitted work to clear invasive species at M&E. He slightly expanded the clearing area from what was included without the need for amendment of the original application. FotF is also exploring the use of ruminants to help manage the invasives in the cleared areas.
- Ongoing meetings with Eric Mader of the Xerces Society/Northwest Meadowscapes for an update and to discuss timing of invasive removal and new planting of native hedgerows and plants.
- During routine monitoring of the property it was apparent that the public had been accessing the ravine, creating erosion at the creek. Signage and cones placed by CoBI and FotF indicating the area was closed and public access not allowed had been removed and thrown in the woods. FotF replaced the signage and cones and notified Ellen Schroer. Adjacent property owners that are frequent users of the trails have been contacted with a request to keep an eye out and FotF has posed additional new informational signage to encourage folks to stay out of the ravine and inform why that is important.

#### Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales

- FotF appeared at the October 20th Council Study Session to present a proposal for affordable housing at Morales farm. The proposal is a collaborative effort among FotF, Coates Design, Clark Construction, and Housing Resources Bainbridge.
- FotF has secured \$23,000 in pro bono services from Mill Hull Architects for Master Planning long-term housing with a Tiny House Village at Day Road/Suyematsu.
- Ongoing communication with publicly owned farmland farmers regarding the Suyematsu and Morales houses and the future of intern housing.
- Ongoing weed whacking to keep young plants down and keep blackberries clear of the Morales house foundation and siding.

 During a regular check of the Suyematsu House it was found that someone had gained entry to the home. No damage was done. FotF has added with new coded padlocks and asked for assistance from the Day Road leasehold farmers and interns in keeping an eye on the property and reminding them that access to the home is not allowed for any reason. FotF notified Ellen Schroer of this incident and the action taken. FotF staff continues to monitor the houses regularly. No further incidents have occurred.

#### Community

- While Covid continues to impact how the public can gather and the type of activities that can occur, FotF continues to seek creative and meaningful ways to safety engage the public on behalf of CoBI.
- Following a tour of public farmland by FotF staff for the new Curator at the Bainbridge Island History Museum, she will be doing some online videos on various aspects of the properties for their "Curious Curator" series. A video with FotF staff on the Morales Farm Victory Garden is complete and available on the Museum's website.
- Over 2,000 pounds of apples were collected and dropped off at Johnson Farm by 30+ families. A local farmer and ciderist will use the apples, supplemented by apples from the Johnson Farm orchard, to create a local Bainbridge Island cider.
- FotF Board Chair and staff met remotely with representatives of the Parks Foundation, Parks Department, Grace Church, and Island School regarding the possibility of opening up trail access from Island School, across Grace Church, along Crawford, and into M&E. There have been other unsuccessful attempts at this in the past. We have researched the history of the easement and compiled a historical outline of correspondence among Grace Church, CoBI, FotF, Island School, and the Parks Foundation. FotF has been invited to submit a grant application to the Parks Foundation for trail improvements.

## Q4/2020

#### General

- As required by the FotF lease with CoBI, Annual Site Committee meetings were held in Q4 for public farmland properties that have sublease farmers: Day Road, Johnson, and Morales. The committees consist of FotF staff, volunteers, and the sublease farmers on each property. The objective is to identify and prioritize repairs, maintenance, and improvements needed and review all that has occurred the prior year, and discuss concerns. This information is aggregated in a report that is shared with the FotF board and with CoBI. More information is below.
- Continued to work with farmers to better establish communications by frequently meeting them on the farms, over the phone, and on Zoom. This effort is a continuing effort to build collaborative and positive



relationships with the farmers so that everyone is clear in their expectations and the farmers feel heard and seen, and the public farmland is well cared for.

- Time was dedicated this quarter sorting out and clarifying all of the repair, maintenance and improvement work as well as programs and activities that occur annually on the publicly owned farmland. This work was at the request of COBI and the sublease farmers.
- Considerable time has been dedicated by FotF to working with the Council Ad Hoc Committee on Public Farmland Management, meeting over Zoom, and gathering existing background material, and drafting documents for discussion.
- FotF is forming a water resource management committee to identify short and long term issues on public farmland. The committee will include farmers, FotF board and staff, community partners, etc.

#### Morales

- Held a two-hour site committee meeting with sublease farmers John Chang, Brian MacWhorter and Mike Lempriere to develop a list of activities and work that need addressing in 2021.
- Working with sublease farmers to create a plan for managing horsetail. We will begin research on potential Bainbridge Island community partners.
- FotF staff continues to work with Morales sublease farmers to efficiently manage water use from the well and KPUD hookup in preparation of the Farmers taking over payment of utility bills for services provided to their sublease parcels. Farmers will purchase their own meters and meter their well water use.
- The final 2020 harvests were done at the Victory Garden and the produce bundled and delivered to Helpline House. The garden has been put to bed for the winter and will be replanted again in Spring 2021.
- FotF board and staff and our community partners (Clark Construction, Coates Design, and Housing Resources Bainbridge) continue to work with CoBI staff and the Kitsap Health Department on permitting and approval to make necessary repairs to the Morales Farmhouse and to locate satellite bedrooms adjacent. The structures will be created with repurposed and recycled materials and will house farm interns and new farmers.

## Johnson

- Hosted a one-hour site committee meeting with Farmers at Johnson Farm: Brian MacWhorter, Mark Taylor and Tracy Lang. We spoke at length about continuing to build community support for farms through ongoing events and improved signage at Johnson Farm.
- FotF and the Bainbridge Island Fruit Club will be renewing our Memorandum of Understanding for maintenance, improvements and (post COVID) community programming and events in the historic orchard.

## Suyematsu-Bentryn

- Held a two-hour Site Committee meeting with Farmers including: Betsey Wittick, Brian MacWhorter, Karen Selvar, and Mike Paulson. We discussed the completion of work identified in last year's meetings, as well as possible tasks for 2021. In addition, we discussed improved communication and a collaborative working relationship as joint stewards of the land. Farmers and FotF were excited about new opportunities.
- Farmers brought to our attention an ongoing concern regarding the public walking through land that is subleased by farmers. This happened again in December when Betsey Wittick met a couple walking through her farmland. For the short-term, FotF put up informational signage at the main gates of the Day Road farmland. We will be putting out an informational newsletter

on what areas are open to the public and what areas are not, and looking into possibilities for more permanent signage.

- FotF board and staff met several times with the Executive Director of the BI Parks Foundation and a board member, and public farmland farmers, to discuss collaboratively creating trails, viewing stations and signage so the community can safely access the publicly owned farmland property without trespassing on private property or sublease parcels. The work could begin in Q2/2021 pending signing of the interlocal agreement between CoBI and the Parks Department. The creation of trails and view stations is called for in the Goals section of FotF's lease with CoBI.
- Section 3.a. of the Goals for Day Road Farms FotF's lease with CoBI calls for the establishment of a farm housing Village. While the lease indicates this should largely be the responsibility of CoBI, FotF has secured pro-bono services from Miller Hill Architects to create a master plan for this work. A team of designers, architects, consultants, environmental experts, and engineers has been assembled to work with FotF staff and board. Charettes have been held with farmers and key community stakeholders to gather additional expertise and feedback.

## **M&E/Bainbridge Native Food Forest**

- On New Year's Eve, farmers advised FotF Program Manager that the catch basin for water that overflows the ponds during heavy rain had filled, was also overflowing, and was washing out the path at M&E above the ravine, as well as causing erosion down the side of the ravine. This was due to debris clogging inflow and outflow pipes. FotF staff and volunteers met onsite but were not able to resolve the problem alone. CoBI O&M was called and working together debris causing the blockage was cleared. A portion of a fence on the property line had to be cut to do this work. FotF purchased materials and rebuilt the damaged portion of fence on January 3rd.
- FotF and Island School educators and administrators continue to work together to craft learning experiences for all Island School students on different elements of the Bainbridge Native Food Forest at M&E. We met with educators to discuss the best ways for moving forward with their curricula and how FotF can best support those efforts.
- FOTF staff continues to accompany school staff and students into the Food Forest for onsite learning about the history of the land, invasive species and salmon preservation. Island School pulled stinky bob and ivy along the north and east sides of the property.



#### Farm Houses – Suyematsu and Morales

• We were notified over a weekend that a fire alarm was going off inside the Morales Farmhouse. FotF Program Manager responded and investigated and it was found to be a faulty alarm.

- FOTF staff are meeting and talking regularly with Farmers who typically house interns to creatively problem solve how we can assist with their immediate need for intern housing should repairs not be completed to the Morales Farmhouse prior to the March arrival of interns.
- FotF Program Manager continued frequent monitoring of both farm houses.

#### Community

- A local farmer and ciderist pressed apples donated from the community gleaning event organized by FotF in September. Tents set up at Johnson Farm were used as a no-contact drop off point and FotF staff and board harvested apples from the historic Johnson Farm orchard. The apples were pressed and are currently being fermented and bottled as a Bainbridge Cider that will be released this spring. We are exploring ways in which a COVID-safe cider release event might be held.
- For the safety of farmers, FotF staff and volunteers, and the public, FotF continues to limit public programming and activities on public farmland due to COVID.



## 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 publicly owned farmland.

Submitted by, Heather Burger Executive Director

# 2020 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	\$0	\$0	\$1,010						\$1,010
	Lease	\$5,120	\$968	\$448						\$6 <i>,</i> 536
	Total Lease / Rents	\$5,120	\$968	\$1,458						\$7 <i>,</i> 546
	Total EARNED INCOME	\$5,120	\$968	\$1,458						\$7,546
	Total CONTRIBUTED INCOME							\$70,250		\$70,250
Total Incor	ne	\$5,120	\$968	\$1,458	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$70,250	\$0	\$77,796
Expense										
	Operations Repairs &	905	579	290	687	181		977	4,429	\$ 8,048
	Maintenance	2,055	1,260	3,670	738					\$ 7,723
	Payroll	6,499	6,193	3,528	3,395	403		10,812	26,569	\$ 57,399
	Utilities	1,822	3,217	343				608		\$ 5,990
	Total Expenses	\$11,281	\$11,249	\$7,831	\$4,820	\$ 584	\$0	\$12,397	\$30,998	\$ 79,160
Net Income		(\$6,161)	(\$10,281)	(\$6,373)	(\$4,820)	(\$ 584)	(\$0)	\$57,853	(\$30,998)	(\$ 1,364)

Volunteer Hours Contributed: 1,045 X \$16/hour = \$16,720