



Land Management at Innisfree

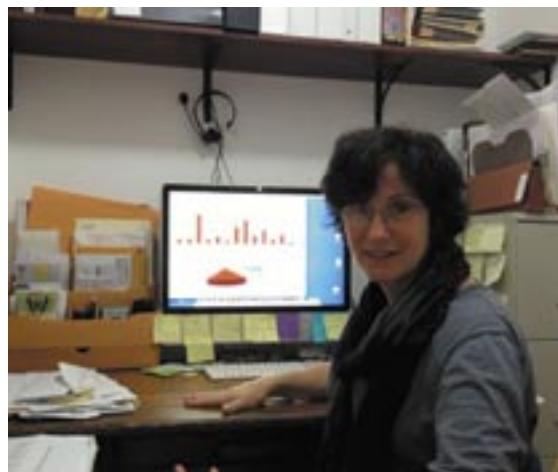


It is no surprise that the land on which we live and work is also an important part of who we are. Innisfree Village has specific language within its Articles of Incorporation that define a specific purpose for our land. In addition to the well-known mission of maintaining a lifesharing community that supports and nurtures our coworkers, we also have organizational goals that include scientific research, environmental monitoring, soil and water science exploration, as well as investigation of advanced farming and grazing techniques.

We use land-planning methods that maximize absorption of rainfall while reducing soil erosion. Our grazing system is augmented by an understanding of the interconnected systems of the physical soil, biology, plant physiology, and livestock husbandry. This system of management holds the promise of being able to grow food at high levels of productivity while at the same time regenerating landscapes.



*Deb Traverse
manages animal
healthcare and
the business end
of the farm.*



The Farm Workstation

Connie Welsh, as head of the farm workstation, demonstrates an unfailing commitment to coworkers. Her care, attention and commitment to each individual's capabilities truly fuels the farm workstation. Together, they help care for the farm. Eggs are gathered, wool is sorted, animals are tended each day, and photo stations are visited weekly.

Nich Traverse also works with all aspects of the farm. He helps with the workstation, has installed miles of new fence, repairs equipment, creates sophisticated GIS maps and manages administration level responsibilities running our field data collection software.



Heyward collects eggs.



Katie and Paul feed the sheep.



James and Nich clean a water tank.

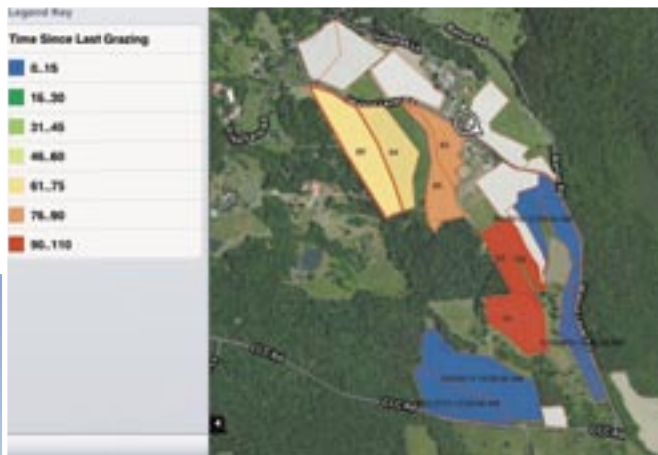


Environmental Monitoring and Research

Initial findings show extraordinary improvements in water infiltration rates (nearly 10 times higher than control plots), rapid increase in organic matter and an increase in depth of topsoil. Although these early signs are encouraging, monitoring and research will continue to explore the results of new practices being implemented on the farm.



Peter collects bulk-density samples to determine carbon levels in the soil.



An example of the maps generated by our field data collection system.



Multi-sensor weather station and water quality data-logger.



Photos taken by coworkers to create time-lapse views.





Innisfree Village Voice
a newsletter of

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The Value of Farming

We enjoy some of the most breathtaking views that can be found anywhere! It's easy to see why Innisfree affirms the organizational purpose "...to acknowledge the reciprocal relationship between human health and the natural environment." When the world around us is healthy it improves human well-being.

And when people are healthy, they tend to look around and work to improve their world. It is a mutual benefit of wellness. We are safe within the landscape, but the landscape is also safe within Innisfree's sense of stewardship. In many ways, this is a testament to the quality

of life and security that Innisfree Village provides its families. We are safe. We are strong. We are optimistic about our future. These things motivate us to keep reaching for the higher ground.



Nich Traverse introduces "Hazel" to curious visitors.



7400 trees have been planted.

2012 Donors

Each year the day-to-day rhythm of our village must continue in order to fulfill our mission: to provide a life-sharing home and work environment in an atmosphere of beauty, warmth, and respectfulness where all community members are valued, and all are encouraged to explore and contribute to a meaningful and challenging life. With your financial help and the harnessed creativity of our remarkable Volunteers, this last year has been full of innovation—like our first 5K race and our farm workers taking up spinning wool. And filled with the familiar—like the beautiful crafts sold at our annual Open House and family-style environment at our newest house Windsong. To our friends, old and new listed below, we extend our sincere gratitude for helping us to continue our lifesharing mission.

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Trisha teaches the finer points of wreath-making to workshop participants.

Corinne finishes another set of placemats before the Annual Open House.



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