

SPRING 2018  
**COMMUNITY HOMESTEADING**  
 EARTHEN HEART (A LEAN RURAL ALTERNATIVE)

**Mission:** To convert rural homes to Community Homesteads in order to radically improve our lives while reducing resource consumption.

By consuming less & producing more (food, energy, entertainment) we reduce income needs & limit expenses while creating thriving community; turning focus to **production for use** over **production for market**, building collective resilience, health & happiness.



**Community Homesteads** address many socio-economic challenges:

- by giving young adults and high school graduates options beyond student loan debt, military service and low paying jobs.
- by offering elders a place to age in loving sustainable communities and maintaining some of the legacy of their land.
- by preserving agricultural land from monoculture mechanized fertilizer and pesticide intensive farming.
- by addressing rampant debt culture and minimum wage slavery.
- by preserving small farms and homesteading culture.
- by meeting the demand for quality food, connection to food and healthy alternative lifestyles.
- by balancing socio-economic disparity.
- by making the simple life appealing, thereby helping western culture curb its conspicuous consumption patterns.

**Community Homesteads** must generate modest income for basic operating expenses (real estate taxes, utilities, maintenance, etc.) through “market based” approaches with the larger outside community (most notably Cottage Foods). Members can generate additional income through further effort inside and outside the homestead and by working at neighboring farms.

**Community Homesteads** can be formed with a specific demographic or market focus: as an urban-rural retreat, educational center, a hub for value added food producers, a plant medicine production and processing center, a spiritual retreat, an inter-generational living center, an Eco-Bed and Breakfast, an agri-tourism and u-pick destination, an artist-in-residence center, etc.

We are looking for help to build this movement. Do you have an idea, have land, or interest in living and working at such a place?

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