**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

[www.groundswellcenter.org](http://www.cornellconcertseries.com)

**Seeking Submissions for New Column:**

 **“Lessons from the Land”**

**Groundswell Center for Local Food & Farming and Cornell Small Farms Program team up to collect stories from Northeast regional farmers.**

**Ithaca, NY –** [Groundswell Center for Local Food & Farming](http://groundswellcenter.org/) and [Cornell Small Farms Program](http://smallfarms.cornell.edu/) are teaming up to create a new column called “Lessons from the Land,” which will first appear in the Fall 2016 issue of the Small Farm Quarterly. “Lessons from the Land” will capture and share the stories of and lessons learned from farmers, homesteaders and land workers around New York and the Northeast.

Too often, farmers and homesteaders exist in isolation; working long hard days, both overcoming significant and unpredictable challenges and also witnessing earth’s abundance.  Stories are a way to connect, unite, and share ideas, information and experiences.

We want to hear stories from growers of all types and sizes, on real topics, that matter.

Each issue of “Lessons from the Land” has a theme. Submissions of 400 – 800 words may be submitted online at <http://groundswellcenter.org/lessons-from-the-land/>. Only nonfiction submissions will be published. Feel free to submit your name, farm name, city and state or submit your piece as “anonymous” if it allows you to be more honest.

We reserve the right to edit your submission to meet space limitations or to be sensitive to privacy issues.  We will share changes with you before publishing. ***Because of space limitations, we are unable to print all the submissions we receive.*** Selected entries will be published in each issue of the Small Farm Quarterly as well as online on the Groundswell Center and Small Farm Program websites.

The first “Lessons from the Land” will appear in the Fall issue, due out in early October. The topic is “Water: Woes and Triumphs” and the submission deadline is **August 12.**

SUBMISSION LINK: <http://groundswellcenter.org/lessons-from-the-land/>.

Deadline: **August 12**

**ABOUT GROUNDSWELL CENTER**

The Groundswell Center for Local Food & Farming, believes in the right of all people to access healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound methods. We also believe in food sovereignty – the right of people and communities to control their own food and agriculture systems.

Our mission is to engage diverse learners and empower them with skills, knowledge and access to resources, so they can build sustainable land-based livelihoods and equitable local food systems. We help people become successful small-scale farmers and homestead food producers through practical, on-farm training. Our peer-to-peer networks build community and foster skills-sharing among farmers, homesteaders and “food citizens.”