WORKING FARMS FUND

From Georgia Farms to Emory Tables

By 2025, 75% of the food purchased by Emory University and 25% of the food purchased by Emory Healthcare will be locally or sustainably grown.

A new partnership between Emory University and The Conservation Fund aims to break down barriers and support next-generation farmers across metro Atlanta while boosting the supply of fresh, local, sustainably grown food for Emory's campus and hospital communities.

HOW DOES IT WORK?



CONSERVATION FUND

- Purchases farmland within a 100mile radius of metro Atlanta
- Places conservation easements on it to permanently protect it from development
- Leases land to farmers with a 5- or 10-year path to ownership



FARMERS

- Leases the farmland from The Conservation Fund below market price
- Utilizes institutional purchasing commitment to secure financing
- Raises crops and livestock using sustainable farming practices



EMORY

- Commits to buying the farmers' sustainably raised crops and livestock
- Moves closer to achieving its sustainable food purchasing goals by 2025
- Encourages student and faculty research on sustainable farming

Equity

Breaking down barriers for young and minority farmers by increasing access to and affordability of farmland

Local Food Access

Increased availability of locally, sustainably grown food in the metro Atlanta area



Guaranteed markets for small farmers to sell their produce



Environmental Protection

Land in the Atlanta area is preserved as agricultural land forever, protecting it from development



