

Holistic Management: Overview

- Saturday, February 26, 2011 – Eco Farm Days – Cornwall, Ontario

With Tony & Fran McQuail

For over 30 years Holistic Management has been helping farm families unleash the energy of a shared “Quality of Life” statement. Working together they explore their values and dreams and develop a vision that all support. The Holistic Goal becomes the “north star” which guides long range plans and day to day decision helping ensure that as individuals and as a group they are moving toward the future they want to build.

Holistic Management has a series of guidelines which help test decisions to ensure that they consider environmental and social as well as economic aspects. The Holistic Goal embodies shared values and guides users to a life which becomes increasingly consistent with their values.

When our daily choices and the life we build from them are aligned with our deepest values it gives us great strength and resilience. Holistic Management is a process for living a meaningful and balanced life by harmonizing our spiritual, social, environmental and economic values. It helps farm families keep their eyes on the big picture while providing the tools to make wise decisions on the nitty gritty choices when managing a farm.

During the workshop we use exercises and reflection to explore our values. We then examine how the Holistic Management framework can help us incorporate them into our decision making and life choices.

Some resources

<http://www.holisticmanagement.ca> Canadian Holistic Management Website

<http://www.holisticmanagement.org> Holistic Management International Website

<http://www.meetingplaceorganicfarm.ca/holistic> McQuail farm website with HM course information

Books

Holistic Management: A New Framework for Decision-Making

The definitive text on Holistic Management written by Allan Savory with Jody Butterfield. This 500+ page book explains the theory and the practice of Holistic Management.

Holistic Management Handbook: Healthy Lands. Healthy Profits.

This is a revision of the Holistic Resource Management Workbook and has all the helpful tips to make your holistic planning successful. Written by Jody Butterfield, Sam Bingham

and Allan Savory. Covers financial planning, grazing planning, land planning, and biological monitoring.

At Home with Holistic Management

As a Holistic Management Certified Educator, mediator, and mother, Ann Adams has created a workbook that helps individuals and families easily understand Holistic Management and put it into practice.

Presenter Biography

Tony & Fran McQuail are the owners of Meeting Place Organic Farm which has been organic for over 30 years. They took their first Holistic Management course in 1995 and have been using HM to guide their farm and family since then. They are Holistic Management Certified Educators so that they can share the benefits of HM with other farm families. The McQuails are founding members of the Ecological Farmers Association of Ontario and have been active in many farm and community organizations.

Meeting Place Organic Farm is a 100 acre diversified operation with a freezer meat business featuring grass fed beef and pastured pork, a market vegetable garden, an apple orchard and 25 acre wood lot. The McQuail's also produce heirloom tomato and other bedding plants in their attached greenhouse. They do much of their farm work with Belgian work horses they raised on the farm. They also utilize other forms of renewable energy in their farming operation.