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# Lessons on Farmland Preservation Near Growing Urban Regions from Oregon, USA

Wednesday, April 11, 2018 @ 1:00pm CST

To Register click: <http://ow.ly/w9pa30iyKvB>

Questions: [Meghan Wrathall](#), 819-345-3777

## ABSTRACT

High quality agricultural land is a valuable non-renewable natural resource; however, many regions struggle to protect this resource when it exists in close proximity to growing urban areas. Oregon, USA is often held up as a model of successful land use planning in the North American context, having established a state-wide system in 1973 that both supports urban areas and protects rural areas. The Willamette Valley makes a particularly interesting case study region, as it contains a great deal of Oregon's best agricultural soils as well as the majority of Oregon's population. This research explores Oregon's land use policies and their outcomes in the Willamette Valley using a framework of planning for "agricultural systems" – an emerging, more holistic approach to agricultural land use planning. Using a reference frame of the author's home region of Ontario's Greater Golden Horseshoe, this presentation highlights lessons on land use planning and farmland conservation relevant to other regions with the combination of high quality farmland and growing urban areas.

## PANELISTS



**Laura Schreiner**, is a land use planner and researcher who has recently completed a Master's in Rural Planning & Development at the University of Guelph. Her research interests include agricultural land use policy, farmland preservation, planning for agricultural systems, and local and sustainable food systems. She has also worked in both vegetable farming and renewable energy project management and has a Bachelor of Engineering and Society from McMaster University. She is currently working as a Planner for the County of Huron.

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