

Farm Succession Planning with Personal Coaching for Participating Families

Washington and Oregon Extension faculty conducted a farm succession planning project based on needs assessment of farm families. From November 2006 through January 2008 we held 3 workshops at each of 6 locations. Participation greatly exceeded expectations - we reached 321 farm families!

Workshop topics included;

- developing farm succession plans,
- communicating successfully with family members,
- identifying appropriate professional input,
- reviewing estate laws,
- writing wills,
- conducting successful family meetings,
- overcoming difficulties,
- optimizing attorney time,
- specifying inheritance of treasured personal items,
- protecting the business in the event of sudden death,
- getting motivated!

We recognized that farm succession planning is challenging. The 75 families who committed to developing a succession plan received free coaching from WSU-trained coaches who had experience in business and/or banking. The coaches contacted the client families regularly with encouragement. If requested, they met in person to assist families with goal-setting or to facilitate meetings.

Ties To The Land: Your Family Forest Heritage. Planning For An Orderly Transition Intergenerational Family Forest Project

Clinton J. Bentz, Mark Green, Renee Irvin, Chal Landgren, Con P. Lynch, Susan Watkins, Brad Withrow-Robinson

Austin Family Business Program, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. 2006. 76 Pages.

This workbook is intended to guide family forest (and farm) landowners through a smooth transition process.

This workbook is available from the Austin Family Business Program, OSU, Corvallis, OR.

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Fax: 541-737-4890

Web: www.familybusinessonline.org