



Buckwheat is one of the many cover crops that the Farm Hub uses to replenish nutrients in the soil and suppress weeds



Organic vegetable production in the forefront of the Esopus Creek riparian woodland



The Farm Stand along Route 209 in Hurley, New York sells fresh produce grown at the Farm Hub, as well as other local products from the Hudson Valley region

SOLUTIONS IN THE LAND

Hudson Valley Farm Hub
Hurley, New York

The "Farm Hub" is an innovative program initiated by the New World Foundation's Local Economies Project that supports agriculture for developing a resilient food system. The 1,255 acre Farm Hub in Hurley, New York provides established farmers from the surrounding Hudson Valley with access to effective and cutting-edge agriculture best management practices as part of its commitment to sustainable agriculture, environmental renewal, and economic vitality in the Hudson Valley.

Solutions in the Land, (SITL), with Conservation Design Forum and Terrapin Bright Green were retained to develop a Site Master Plan for the farm. The plan guides the farm to serve as a regional center for farmer training, agricultural research, demonstration of innovative farm technologies, and land conservation practices to increase soil health and habitat diversity along the nearly two miles of the Esopus Creek.

Our role was to generate preliminary concepts of a Whole Farm Plan that would include a research-based training center and a crop production/packaging facility. Additionally, we conducted a floristic quality assessment of the project site and adjacent lands as a basis to provide conservation stewardship guidelines for the riparian areas adjacent to the fresh-water trout creek. This farm plan offers a unique opportunity to restore the land with state-of-the-art agriculture and farmland conservation practices and to create a duplicable model in agriculture.

Additionally, we explored viable market relationships with adjacent urban centers, New York City being one. Our goal was to connect restorative agriculture and conservation measures to the market. Our work brought this to realization by identifying purchasing clients that valued the place and stewardship methods of the Hudson Valley Farm Hub design.