

# Friends of Silverwood Park

P.O. Box 304, Edgerton, WI 53534  
[info@silverwoodpark.org](mailto:info@silverwoodpark.org)

## Silverwood Grower Partner Application

for use of land and other agricultural activities

### Section A - Background

The mission of Silverwood Park:

Silverwood Park educates the public on the broad and diverse aspects of Wisconsin agriculture - past, present, and future. The park celebrates the rich cultural history of agriculture in Dane County as well as demonstrating innovative agricultural practices and land stewardship that sustains the land for future generations.

Silverwood Park has a three-part vision statement, created in 2012:

1. *Provide educational facilities, job training, and resources for the public, farmers, and youth to learn how food, fuel and fiber are grown processed and distributed.*
2. *Provide access to a demonstration farm which offer opportunities for agriculture research to grow crops that have cultural, historical and economic significance.*
3. *Support the production of food, fuel and fiber to demonstrate environmental health, economic profitability, and social and economic equity.*

Silverwood Park is owned by Dane County, and overseen the Dane County Park Commission and Parks Division. As the non-profit “umbrella” organization for visioning and programming for the park, Friends of Silverwood Park (FOSP) is chief steward of the land at Silverwood. FOSP expanded and specified this vision by assisting in the creation of a Silverwood Master Plan with the Dane County Parks Division, and creating an FOSP strategic plan, both in 2016.

The purpose of FOSP’s Grower Partner program is to encourage, and provide structure for, use of this historic farmland and public growing space by individuals and organizations who wish to use Silverwood’s agricultural soils while also contributing to educational opportunities for park visitors and participants in park programs. Silverwood is not merely a recreational park, nor just a farm; it is a public facility with a mission best achieved by an intersection of elements that support an innovative and collaborative mix of sustainable agriculture, hands-on education, community participation, conservation and economic development.

### Section B – Applicant Information

1. Briefly describe yourself or your organization, including experience, focus, and other pertinent details

2. References: Please provide three references that know of your work, values and/or character

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## Section C – Applicant Questions & Answers

1. The primary goal underlying your desire to use land at Silverwood (“What does success look like?”)
2. How your proposal meshes with the mission and vision statements of Silverwood Park
3. The resources you have or will bring to make your project at Silverwood Park successful
4. How, and who, your project would educate
5. How your project fits in a public, potentially collaborative, space
6. What assumptions you have about the program, or questions you have for FOSP about the program