



FARMERS' LEGAL
ACTION GROUP,
INCORPORATED

Resources for Hmong Farmers

Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc. (FLAG)
360 North Robert Street, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone: 651-223-5400 / MN Toll-Free: 877-860-4349
Fax: 651-223-5335
Email: lawyers@flaginc.org
Website: www.flaginc.org

This list of contacts below is intended to be a resource for farmers seeking assistance in a variety of areas including legal services, beginning farmer programs, and lending resources. This is not an exhaustive list for Hmong farmers in Minnesota, but a starting point for additional information.

Legal Services

Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc. (FLAG)

360 North Robert Street, Suite 500
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SMRLS - Minnesota Family Farm Law Project

12 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 3000
P.O. Box 3304
Mankato, MN 56002

Mankato office contacts: Gary Petersen, Barry Bartelt
Phone: 507-387-1211 / Toll-Free: 800-247-2299

Rochester office contact: Tamara Dreher
Phone: 507-292-0080 / Toll-Free: 866-292-0080

The Mankato and Rochester offices serve the entire
33-county SMRLS service area.

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS)

450 North Syndicate Street, Suite 325
St. Paul, MN 55104
Phone: 651- 291-2837
Outstate clients toll-free: 800-652-9733

Min-Minnesota Legal Assistance (MMLA)

125 West Broadway, Suite 105
Minneapolis, MN 55411
Phone: 612-332-1441
Contact: Tou Chao Lee, Community Liason (Hmong speaking)
Phone: 612-977-1804

Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota, Inc.

1015 Seventh Avenue North
P.O. Box 838
Moorhead, MN 56560
Phone: 218-233-8585 / Toll-Free: 800-450-8585

MMLA- Minnesota Family Farm Law Project

830 W. Germain, Suite 300
P.O. Box 886
St. Cloud, MN 56302
Phone: 320-253-0121 / Toll-Free: 888-360-2889
Contact: Roger Grugel, Marilyn Brinkman

Minnesota Farm Advocates

Farm Advocates provide one-on-one assistance for Minnesota farmers who face crisis caused by either a natural disaster or financial problems. They are trained and experienced in agricultural lending practices, mediation, lender negotiations, farm programs, crisis counseling, disaster programs and to recognize the needs for legal and/or social services.

For a list of Advocates, visit the Minnesota Department of Agriculture website at www.mda.state.mn.us or call 1-800-967-AGRI for an Advocate working in your area.

Farm Resources – Farm Service Agency (FSA)

FSA is an agency within the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) that administers farm loan programs. FSA has several offices in Minnesota: county offices, district offices (covering a region of counties), and a state office. For information on your local FSA office, contact the state office at 651-602-7700 or visit <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=mn&agency=fsa>.

Contact: Nigatu Tadesse, Outreach Coordinator
Phone: 651-602-7705

Farm Resources – Beginning Farmers, Farm Management, and Youth Farming

Minnesota Food Association

14220-B Ostlund Trail North
Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047
Phone: 651-433-3676
Fax: 651-433-5050
Website: www.mnfoodassociation.org
Contact: Yimeem Vu – New Immigrant Agriculture Project, Hmong/Southeast Asian Coordinator

Land Stewardship Project (LSP)

2200 4th Street
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
Phone: 651-653-0618
Website: www.landstewardshipproject.org
Contacts for Farm Beginnings Program:

Twin Cities: Cate Twohig, Director
Phone: 651-653-0618

Southeastern MN: Karen Stettler
Phone: 507-523-3366

Western MN: Laura Borgendale
Phone: 320-269-2105

University of Minnesota – Extension Service

U of M- Extension Service has several county and regional offices. For more contact information, visit www.extension.umn.edu or contact Robert King, Department Head for Farm Management and Marketing at 612-625-0231.

Youth Farm and Market Project

2831 Aldrich Ave. South
Minneapolis, MN 55408
Phone: 612-872-4226
www.youthfarm.net

Farm Resources – Minnesota Government

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

625 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155
Phone: 651-201-6000 / Toll-Free: 800-967-2474
Website: www.mda.state.mn.us

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

500 Metro Square
121 7th Place E.
St. Paul, MN 55101-2146
Phone: (651) 297-1291 / Toll Free: 800-657-3858
Website: www.deed.state.mn.us

Minnesota Department of Revenue

600 N. Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55146
Phone: 651-282-5225
Website: www.taxes.state.mn.us

Small Business Administration

Small Business Administration (SBA)

Phone: 800-U-ASK-SBA
<http://www.sba.gov>

SBA Minnesota

100 North Sixth Street
Suite 210-C Butler Square
Minneapolis, MN 55403
Phone: (612) 370-2324
Fax: (612) 370-2303
www.sba.gov/mn/

Farm Resources – Educational materials available in English or Hmong

Contract Poultry Growers Have Rights under Federal Law, Susan E. Stokes and Jill Krueger, translation by YeeLeng Hang, Farmers Legal Action Group, Inc. available by contacting FLAG at 651-223-5400 or at http://flaginc.org/topics/pubs/arts/PS_PoultryGrowerRights.pdf.

Simple and Successful Vegetable Farming (video), University of Minnesota Extension Service, 2000, available for purchase/order at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG7475.html>.

How to Keep Your Soil Healthy, University of Minnesota Extension Service, 2004, available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG7620.html>.

How to Protect Your Crops from Pests: IPM, University of Minnesota Extension Service, 2004, available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG7617.html>.

How to Pick, Store, and Sell the Vegetables You Grow, University of Minnesota Extension Service, 2004, available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG7619.html>.

How to Sell Your Crops: Marketing, University of Minnesota Extension Service, 2004, available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG7618.html>.