



Tierra Nueva

PO Box 161 • Burlington, WA 98233 • 360-755-0768 • www.tierra-nueva.org

Tierra Nueva's Farm Volunteer Description

History of Tierra Nueva: Tierra Nueva began in 1982 when Bob and Gracie Ekblad first moved to Minas de Oro, Honduras, to work and learn alongside poor campesinos. Seeking to address the poverty that belied the regional wars and conflicts in Central America, Bob and Gracie learned and taught sustainable farming, nutrition, and preventative health. As they read the Scriptures alongside their Honduran neighbors—many of whom were excluded from the local churches—the campesinos began to discover Good News for themselves.

Bob and Gracie moved to the Skagit Valley in Washington State in 1994, a valley with rich agriculture that attracts a large number of migrant farm workers from Mexico and Central America. Here the Ekblads established Tierra Nueva del Norte and began to engage in legal advocacy and accompaniment of migrant workers and chaplaincy in the Skagit County Jail. These two ministries continue to be the anchors of Tierra Nueva. Tierra Nueva projects aim at providing advocacy and support for marginalized families in Skagit Valley, as well as raising up local leaders who feel called to serve the community.

New Earth Farm: New Earth Farm is one of three social enterprises at Tierra Nueva. Our mission is to cultivate God's kingdom in the Skagit Valley through growing organic produce for local sale, generating income for our migrant pastors, providing advocacy and support for marginalized families, and promoting sustainable, organic agriculture and healthy lifestyles. We are currently farming on 5 acres of certified organic land, and we sell produce to weekly and seasonal subscribers between Mount Vernon and Seattle. See below for directions to the farm.

Volunteers have been a significant part of our farm's history, providing support, knowledge and company. We take our volunteers seriously and love working with you, sharing our knowledge with you and learning from you.

Directions: *New Earth Farm is located at 16665 Britt Road in South Mount Vernon. We are just five minutes from downtown Mount Vernon, located directly behind Mount Vernon Christian School.*

From the north, take Exit 226 Kincaid Street toward downtown Mount Vernon. Turn right on Kincaid Street. Turn Left on 3rd Street to go south toward Blackburn Road. Turn right to head west on Blackburn to its end. Turn left on Britt Road. New Earth Farm is located 300 meters on your left. Enter through the North Gate.

From the south, take Exit 225 Anderson Road. Take a left to head west on Anderson Road. Turn right to head north on Old Highway 99 toward Blackburn Road. Take a left on Blackburn Road and follow it west toward Britt Road. Turn left on Britt Road. New Earth Farm is located 300 meters on your left. Enter through the North Gate.

What to bring: You may be involved in a variety of tasks at the farm with us, from seeding in the greenhouse to transplanting raspberries in the field. We have the tools needed for the work, but ask that you bring a few things with you to enhance your experience:

- clothes that you don't mind getting dirty
- gear for rainy or cold weather--raincoat/pants, hat, boots
- work gloves--we have some, but can't guarantee an available pair
- Lunch--please bring your own lunch and drinks. We have water, but ask that you bring your own bottle to refill. We do have a microwave on site if you want warm drinks/food
- a signed copy of the Waiver of Liability available on our website:
newearthfarm.wordpress.com

What you can expect: Upon arriving at the farm, you can expect a welcome and a short introduction to the day's tasks and to the facilities. From this point on, we'll usually break up into smaller groups led by New Earth Farm staff and interns. If you are unable to work in a certain area for physical reasons, please speak up. We ask that you pay attention to where you walk, as we have many delicate green things growing; ask the staff if you have questions. We'll break for a community meal at mid-day.

Questions? Want more info? Check out our websites at www.tierra-nueva.org and farm.newearthworks.org. And feel free to contact us at newearthfarm@newearthworks.org.