

2012 Growers' Academy

An 8-week learning series
focused on organic and low-input production

January 24 – March 13 • Tuesdays, 6-9 pm

Virginia Tech Roanoke Center in the Roanoke Higher Education Building at 108 North Jefferson Street

VT EARTHWORKS and Virginia Cooperative Extension have partnered for the third year to offer a series of courses* specifically designed to help new and transitioning vegetable and cut-flower businesses succeed. Instructors include resource professionals and farm business owners.

- Planning for Success: Setting Goals and Establishing Targets
- Soils and Composting
- Marketing
- Business Plan Development
- Equipment for Small Scale Farming
- Preventative Pests and Weed Management
- Crop Production and Planning
- Business Plan Review

NEW Farm Tour, Saturday,
March 10, 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

The 8-week course is \$215 (no class on February 21).
Scholarships may be available, please inquire.

Register online today at:

<http://www.cpe.vt.edu/reg/grac/>

For more information, contact:

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**Course offerings may change slightly*

Virginia Cooperative Extension

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu

 **VirginiaTech**
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UNIVERSITY



Accelerating land-based businesses

Want to start a farm business but don't have land?

Graduates of the Growers' Academy are eligible to lease land at a discounted rate at the **Catawba Sustainability Center** in Catawba, Virginia.

"I SO enjoyed Growers Academy. I learned so much and feel much more secure on my path."

Angie LeNoir, Blue Ridge Growers Cooperative Growers Academy, 2011



Growers' Academy participants will be awarded a one-year trial membership to VT EARTHWORKS, an incubation program for agricultural businesses.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.vtrc.vt.edu/catawba/>

Check out the 2010 Growers' Academy video on



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MzImCgefQQA>