

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023-\_\_**

**Authorizing Extension of County Farm Agricultural Lease**

Executive Summary

Jefferson County owns farmland consisting of approximately 328 acres. As changes may occur in the next year that could change the total number of acres available for farming, it would be prudent to extend the current lease for one year instead of putting it out to bid for three years. The current lease ends on February 28, 2024, and had a rental rate of \$290.25 per acre. The Land and Water Conservation Committee considered this resolution at its meeting on October 18, 2023, and recommended forwarding to the County Board for approval.

WHEREAS, the Executive Summary is incorporated into this resolution, and

WHEREAS, the County Farm is currently leased by Jeff and Monica Gerner, W8215 Perry Road, Fort Atkinson, for a three-year lease term (March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2024), and

WHEREAS, the current lease is for \$290.25 per acre for a total of \$95,202, and

WHEREAS, there may be changes to the total acreage available for farming in the next year which would complicate the bidding process for a 3-year contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to enter into a one-year lease with Jeff and Monica Gerner for 328 acres of county farmland totaling \$95,202 under the same terms and conditions as the current lease.

*Fiscal Note: Total rent payable to Jefferson County for the one-year lease term is \$95,202. This amount is contained in the 2024 Land and Water Conservation Department budget.*

Ayes:\_\_\_\_\_ Noes:\_\_\_\_\_ Abstain:\_\_\_\_\_ Absent:\_\_\_\_\_ Vacant:\_\_\_\_\_

Referred By  
Land and Water Conservation Committee

**10-24-2023**

REVIEWED: County Administrator:\_\_\_\_\_ ; Corporation Counsel:\_\_\_\_\_ ; Finance Director:\_\_\_\_\_



There are a limited number of trees and shrubs available. Trees and shrubs will be reserved with a paid and completed order form on the date in which they are received. For best selection place your order early!

**All trees and shrubs are sold as bare-root seedlings in single species bundles. Coniferous trees come in bundles of 25. Minimum order of any one of these species is 25 trees (1 bundle). Deciduous trees/shrubs come in bundles of 10. Minimum order of any one of these species is 10 trees/shrubs (1 bundle). Please check your order form carefully.**

Distribution will be mid-April to early May (weather permitting). Information will be sent out to notify customers of pickup location, dates, and times. Trees are perishable and need to be picked up promptly to help ensure their viability. **We cannot hold orders, nor do we deliver.** If you can't make it to pickup, please make arrangements for someone else to pick up your order at the designated times. **Trees not collected on the pickup date will be donated and refunds will not be given.**

## Coniferous Trees

**2-3 Fraser Fir** - Often referred to as the Cadillac of Christmas trees. Has an excellent fragrance and exceptional needle retention. Likes cool, moist, well drained soil. Full to partial sun. Will not do well in heavy, wet clay soil. **12-16" \$30 (Per Bundle of 25)**

**2-2 White Pine** - Grows over 35 ft. Vigorous growing, open tree with long, soft, bluish-green needles. Used in ornamental plantings. Tolerates shade and grows well in a variety of soils. **7-15" \$30 (Per Bundle of 25)**

**2-3 Black Hills Spruce** - Short, stiff, dark green needles and a spicy scent. Extremely hardy, withstanding heat and dry growing conditions. Used as an ornamental, windbreak, or as a Christmas tree. **7-15" \$30 (Per Bundle of 25)**

**2-2 White Spruce** - Short, sharp, pale green needles and upright, dense branches. A popular Christmas tree as well as an ornamental and windbreak tree. Endures drought conditions well. **7-15" \$30 (Per Bundle of 25)**

## Deciduous Trees and Shrubs

**Hazelnut - 2 Yr. Seedling** - Small shrub often in clumps. Edible brown nuts. Grows best in moist, well-drained soils but will adapt to most types of soils. Full sun or partial shade. Attracts wildlife such as deer, grouse, turkeys, pheasants, and quail. **12-18" \$26 (Per Bundle of 10)**

**Sugar Maple - 1 Yr. Seedling** - Outstanding native shade tree. Dark green leaves turn yellow to orange to fiery red in fall. Grows in most soil types. Sap used for maple syrup. Used as an ornamental, for lumber, and wildlife habitat. **12-18" \$26 (Per Bundle of 10)**

**Swamp White Oak - 2 Yr. Seedling** - Does well in moist to wet soil, also in upland areas. Shiny dark green leaves. Yellow to purple fall color. Their sweet acorns are great for wildlife. **12 - 18" \$26 (Per Bundle of 10)**

To order, mail this form along with payment made out to:  
 Jefferson County LWCD, 311 S Center Ave, Jefferson, WI 53549

Questions? (920) 674-7110

We are required to collect 5.5% sales tax on all trees sold. If you are tax exempt, please include your signed tax exemption form with your order.

Trees not collected on the pickup date will be donated and refunds will not be given.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include your daytime phone number in case we need to contact you about your order. Your phone number will only be used for the tree sale.)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(Your email will only be used for the tree sale.)

Description	Trees per Bundle	Number of Bundles	Unit Price	Total
<b>Coniferous Trees</b>				
Fraser Fir	25		\$30.00	
White Pine	25		\$30.00	
Black Hills Spruce	25		\$30.00	
White Spruce	25		\$30.00	
<b>Deciduous Trees and Shrubs</b>				
Hazelnut	10		\$26.00	
Sugar Maple	10		\$26.00	
Swamp White Oak	10		\$26.00	
			<b>Sub Total</b>	
			<b>5.5% Tax (0.055)</b>	
			<b>Total</b>	

\*multiply subtotal by tax