

# Ruth Rabinowitz















## PROFILES IN soil health

Ruth Rabinowitz  
Six Iowa Counties  
Corn and Soybeans/CRP  
Planting: Oats, Rape Seed & Hairy Vetch



### No One Will Care for the Land Like You Do.

Nearly 2,000 miles separates Ruth Rabinowitz from her family's Iowa farmland. Without the advantage of growing up on a farm, the new partner in Rabinowitz Family Farms now finds herself serving as the family's point person for managing 10 farms in six Iowa counties as well as one farm in South Dakota.

There's a steep learning curve for such an undertaking, but it's one Ruth is facing head-on. "Dad grew up poor in New Jersey," Ruth explains. "He put himself through medical school and became a doctor, but he always dreamed about farming. He began buying farmland in Iowa in 1978 and would come to the Iowa State Fair every year from our home in the Phoenix area of Arizona to check on his farms."



A cover crop of oats, rape seed and hairy vetch was flown onto 61 acres this past fall in three fields in Clarke County. Ruth wants to expand use of cover crops for better soil health on the family farms.

















































































## XERCES SOCIETY & WFAN POLLINATOR FIELD DAY

Join representatives from the Women Food & Ag Network and  
the Xerces Society for a *Women's Only* Field Day!

Pre-registration is required.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/Xerces-WFAN>

Join us for a *women's only* field day, including hands-on demonstration and  
discussion about installing native plantings for pollinators and beneficial  
insects in agricultural areas. Activities include group discussions, learning  
circle, and a farm visit!

Tuesday, August 21st, 2018

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

(Please arrive at 9:45 for check-in)

Two Saints Winery

15170 20th Ave

St. Charles, IA

and

Rabinowitz Family Farms (Ruth & Shauna Rabinowitz)

2385 Valley View Ave

St. Charles, IA

Registration is free and includes free lunch at the winery. We will meet at the winery for  
morning activities and lunch, and then caravan to the farm together.

Activities include:

- Site selection and site preparation methods
- Tools for evaluating a site's ability to support monarchs, native bees, and other beneficial insects
- Background on pollinator biology and conservation
- Seed mix design, planting methods, and long-term habitat management
- Farm bill programs and funding opportunities for farmers

### About WFAN

Women make up more than half the US population, and own an increasing number of farms. Surveys show that women own or co-own nearly half the farmland in the Midwest. But we are under-represented on the boards of policy-making bodies, and often encounter communications barriers when accessing information from agencies and institutions.

WFAN exists so that women can give each other the information, connections, and encouragement they need to be effective practitioners and supporters of sustainable agriculture and healthy localized food systems.

### About the Xerces Society

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation is an international nonprofit organization that protects wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat. The Society's Pollinator Conservation Program was launched in 1996, and works with leading native pollinator ecologists to translate the latest research findings into on-the-ground conservation. More information about the Xerces Society is available at [www.xerces.org](http://www.xerces.org).

### Contact/Questions

For additional information about the event, feel free to email  
[Jennifer.hopwood@xerces.org](mailto:Jennifer.hopwood@xerces.org).