FARBER FARM MANAGER

Tamarack Camps | Camp Maas — Ortonville, Michigan
Full-Time, Year-Round Position

About Tamarack Camps

For more than 125 years, Tamarack Camps has created meaningful Jewish camping experiences that build community, strengthen identity, develop lifelong friendships, and connect children and families to the outdoors.

At Tamarack, camp is more than a place—it is a community. Our work is guided by our core values of inclusive community, personal development, living Jewishly, safety, and financial fairness.

About The Farber Farm

Located at Camp Maas in Ortonville, Michigan, **The Farber Farm is a one-acre, year-round working educational farm** where agriculture, experiential education, Jewish values, and camp come together.

The farm grows more than 100 varieties of seasonal vegetables, fruits, herbs, cut flowers, cover crops, and perennials using organic growing practices. Its infrastructure includes an automated greenhouse, passive solar hoop house, tool barn, outdoor pavilion, walk-in cooler, and learning center.

During the summer, campers experience the farm through planting, harvesting, cooking, food education, nature-based activities, and hands-on exploration. Throughout the year, Farber Farm also supports Tamarack Adventure & Retreat Center programming, provides produce for camp dining and programming, and contributes fresh food to community food pantries.

The Opportunity

Tamarack Camps is seeking an experienced, energetic, and hands-on **Farber Farm Manager** to lead the year-round operation of the farm.

The Farm Manager will be equally comfortable developing a seasonal crop plan, working alongside staff in the field, managing greenhouse and farm systems, training employees and volunteers, leading a farm tour, and collaborating with colleagues throughout Tamarack Camps.

The successful candidate will bring both **agricultural expertise and strong people skills** and will see the farm not simply as a production operation, but as an important part of the Tamarack experience.

The Farber Farm Manager reports to the **Camp Director**.

Ideal Candidate Profile

The ideal Farber Farm Manager is an **experienced farmer, collaborative leader, educator, and community builder** who enjoys being as involved with people as they are with plants.

This person takes ownership of the farm and approaches the work with energy, curiosity, and pride. They can see the big picture—planning a productive and sustainable growing season—while remaining attentive to the daily details required to keep a working farm operating successfully.

Our ideal candidate is:

- **Hands-on and hardworking** — willing to lead from the field and work alongside staff and volunteers.
- **Self-starting and accountable** — able to identify what needs to be done, establish priorities, and move the work forward with limited supervision.
- **Organized and detail-oriented** — capable of managing planting schedules, harvests, purchasing, facilities, staff, volunteers, and records simultaneously.
- **Flexible and agile** — comfortable adjusting plans as weather, crops, staffing, camp schedules, and other circumstances change.
- **A strong people leader** — able to recruit, train, supervise, motivate, and develop seasonal staff while creating a positive team environment.
- **An excellent communicator** — comfortable engaging campers, volunteers, donors, colleagues, community partners, organizational leadership, and board members.
- **Collaborative** — excited to work across Tamarack rather than operating the farm as a stand-alone program.
- **Education-minded** — understands that success at Farber Farm is measured not only by what we grow, but also by the experiences we create for campers and guests.
- **Community-oriented** — enthusiastic about sharing the farm through tours, volunteer opportunities, food distribution, and community partnerships.

- **Mission-driven** — interested in connecting agriculture, sustainability, food, nature, and Jewish values in meaningful and accessible ways.
- **Passionate about the work** — someone whose enthusiasm for farming, the outdoors, and working with people is evident to those around them.

Most importantly, we are looking for someone who understands that **Farber Farm is both a working farm and a Tamarack program space**. The right person will balance agricultural excellence with education, hospitality, collaboration, and the unique energy of camp.

What You'll Do

Lead Farm Operations & Crop Production

Manage the farm's year-round growing operation, including whole-farm planning, seasonal planting and harvest schedules, seeding, propagation, planting, crop care, soil testing and amendments, plant health, harvesting, mowing, trimming, and overall site maintenance.

Manage Farm Facilities & Infrastructure

Oversee the operation and upkeep of the farm's automated greenhouse, passive solar hoop house, tool barn, outdoor pavilion, walk-in cooler, learning center, and related farm equipment and systems.

Lead & Develop the Farm Team

Recruit, interview, hire, train, and supervise seasonal farm staff in collaboration with the Farm Educator. Provide hands-on training and leadership and create a team culture centered on accountability, collaboration, safety, and a strong work ethic.

Connect Farming to the Camper Experience

Work closely with the Farm Educator and Tamarack's program team to ensure that farm operations support meaningful, age-appropriate experiences for campers. Help connect agriculture, food, nature, sustainability, and Jewish values in ways that make the farm an integral part of camp.

Manage Harvest & Food Distribution

Coordinate harvesting and the flow of produce to Tamarack's dining operation, camp programs, and community food pantries. Partner with dining services and other departments to maximize the productive use of what the farm grows.

Build Community

Recruit, schedule, train, and lead volunteers; conduct farm tours; engage donors and community members; and represent Farber Farm as an important part of Tamarack Camps and the broader community.

Collaborate Across Tamarack

Partner with Camp leadership, Advancement, Finance, Maintenance, Dining Services, Tamarack Adventure & Retreat Center, and other teams to ensure the farm supports Tamarack's overall mission and operates within its approved budget.

Maintain appropriate planting, harvest, purchasing, and operational records.

Experience & Qualifications

- Minimum of **five years of hands-on experience on a production farm**, including experience managing organic agricultural systems
- Farm management experience strongly preferred
- Proficiency with organic growing methods and small-scale management of vegetables, fruits, herbs, perennials, and cut flowers
- Experience with greenhouse and hoop-house systems
- Experience interviewing, hiring, training, and supervising a team
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work effectively with donors, volunteers, full-time and seasonal staff, community members, stakeholders, and board members

A college degree or formal agricultural certification is **not required**. We value demonstrated experience, agricultural knowledge, leadership ability, and a willingness to learn.

Candidates do not need to be Jewish. They should, however, be comfortable working in a Jewish camp environment and enthusiastic about learning and communicating the connections among agriculture, sustainability, community, and Jewish values, including **Shomrei Adamah—guardians of the earth**.

This Is a Hands-On Role

Farming at Tamarack means being outside and actively engaged in the work.

The Farm Manager must be comfortable working outdoors throughout the year in changing Michigan weather, including heat, cold, rain, snow, and sun. The position requires significant physical activity, the ability to lift at least 50 pounds, and the stamina to perform and model a full day of farm work.

Compensation & Benefits

Tamarack Camps offers a **competitive compensation and benefits package** commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Benefits for eligible employees include a comprehensive package designed to support health, well-being, retirement, and work-life balance. Additional benefits and camp-related perks may be available based on the position.

Specific compensation and benefit details will be discussed during the interview process.

Why Tamarack?

At Tamarack Camps, the Farm Manager has an opportunity to do more than manage a farm.

You'll help children discover where food comes from. You'll introduce campers to vegetables and herbs they may have never tasted. You'll help young people get their hands dirty, understand the natural world, and experience the connection between food, community, sustainability, and Jewish values.

And you'll help ensure that **Farber Farm continues to grow, both what comes from the soil and what our campers take home with them.**

Come grow with us at Tamarack Camps.

Please send your letter of interest and your resume to AROSENBERG@TAMARACKCAMPS.COM

Tamarack Camps is committed to creating an inclusive community and welcomes qualified applicants from diverse backgrounds and experiences.