



Craig Farm Katahdins LLC & Shepherd's Garden Services

Based in southwest Michigan

What We Do

We offer an array of direct services, subject matter expertise, and consulting related to integrated natural resource management and land management planning and design. We can support private landowners, municipalities or government entities, conservation and land trusts, universities, and renewable energy developers and asset managers.

Whether your goals are conservation and pollinator habitat, integration of agrivoltaics and renewable energy, natural resource protection and restoration, or agricultural economic development, we and our partnerships can assist with incorporating practices that can reduce emissions, increase soil health and carbon sequestration, support wildlife and pollinator habitats, and increase sustainable, regenerative agriculture.

We offer support through ourselves and our partnerships with other environmental support companies and organizations. We can help with a wide range of ecosystems and land management options for many land uses from orchards, farmlands, prairie grasslands, right-of-ways, or energy generation facilities.

Vegetation Management Services

Conservation / prescribed grazing

Active use of livestock such as sheep, goats, cattle or bison to carry out prescribed grazing. This service can achieve vegetation management goals such as invasive species and fuel load reductions as well as enhancing the environment and soil health.

Hybrid vegetation management

Offered as an add-on to conservation grazing. A hybrid approach incorporates appropriate use of mechanical and/or chemical methods for brush and herbaceous weed control. We are a certified commercial applicator and work closely with certified prescribed burning teams as appropriate.

Planning & Design Services

Comprehensive agriculture management planning & services

Integrated resource planning for agricultural or natural resource management, evaluating your goals and natural resources to map a comprehensive vegetation strategy and suggested best management practices. Agriculture plans can include options such as conservation grazing, hybrid brush/weed control, forage production including hay or other livestock feed, food production, specialty crops, and enhancing native plant populations. These options can be provided as services that we carry out, or we can provide support, management, and/or education/mentoring for landowners and land managers.

Renewable energy / agrivoltaics evaluation & planning

Separate or as an add-on to an agricultural management planning, this evaluates your renewable energy opportunities and provides suggested best practices to maintain agricultural integrity of farmland that may be used for siting of renewable infrastructure. The practice of agrivoltaics maintains food production and/or pollinator habitat but requires careful planning to ensure harmony between the infrastructure and ag activities.

Custom subject matter expertise

You may book us for SME engagements, billed at our going rate, customized to meet a wide range of topics or projects.



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How to Get Started

All services begin with a complimentary phone call, followed by an introductory evaluation, typically billed at \$200 per hour, booked at 2 hours minimum onsite or 1 hour minimum via phone/video. Larger or complex acreages may require additional time for this evaluation. You will receive an assessment with pricing estimates whether you are seeking vegetation management services, planning and design, or both.

Our recommendations may include a variety of planning and design elements, reports, analyses, and required data or test results you may need to provide for us to complete services. To schedule your phone call, you may email us at info@craig.farm, visit our website at <https://www.craig.farm/contact-us>, or call/text us at (269) 528-1409.

About Us

Craig Farms Katahdins began as a family sheep farm in 2007 and incorporated in 2018. This woman-owned small business is managed by married couple Matthew and Samantha Craig. Through the home farm they produce lambs for genetic seed stock and for fine dining experiences, as well as producing hay and propagating native seeds and plants for wholesale. Through the services branch, Shepherd's Garden, the Craigs offer an array of ecological services and consulting packages.

Matthew holds a Masters in Agriculture- Integrated Resource Management and is broadly experienced in many types of livestock production as well as grazing/forage planning, management, and harvest. Matthew manages multiple farms, works as a native plant and seed specialist in southwest Michigan, and serves as a subject matter expert for United Agrivoltaics North America, supporting pollinator and grazing integration on commercial and utility scale solar energy facilities.

Samantha holds a Masters in Applied Animal Behavior and Animal Welfare and serves as the Executive Director for the United Agrivoltaics Heartland Alliance, a nonprofit dedicated to advancing agrivoltaics as a means to farm viability for next generation farmers, while helping solve complex land access and marketing challenges.

Travel

There is no charge for travel within 1 hour of Lawton, Michigan. Travel is billed separately at the going federal rate for onsite evaluation or services provided outside of this radius.

Contact Info

Matthew & Samantha Craig

info@craig.farm

(269) 528-1409 or (636) 328-4375

<https://www.craig.farm/contact-us>