

# On-Farm Diversification

Benefits and Best Practices



# What are On-Farm Diversified Uses?

- Located on a farm
- Secondary to the principal agricultural use of the property
- Limited in area (e.g., 2% of farmland to a maximum of 1 ha)
- Includes (but is not limited to) home occupations, home industries, agri-tourism and value-added uses
- Is compatible with, and does not hinder, surrounding agricultural operations

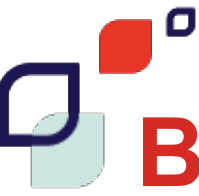


# Economic Benefits

- Additional income and job opportunities
- Preserves agricultural land, building and heritage
- Strengthens the family farm
- Tourism attraction
- Agriculture education
- Cultural exchange



The Sunflower Farm (Brock)



# Best Practices and Resources

- Guidelines to Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas
- Local-level policy: should include OFDU definitions, size/scale criterion and as of right uses
- Pre-consultation meetings for OFDU applications
- Scale back fee requirements for OFDU development permissions (where possible)
- Enhance working relationships (between farms, organizations, municipalities, OMAFRA)
- Maintain positive neighbourly relationships with surrounding property owners





# Current Projects/next steps

- Municipal Agriculture Economic Development and Planning Working Group
- Industry relations and business workshops
- OFDU Business Toolkit
- Agriculture 101 training (DAAC)
- Growing Agri-Food Durham Plan & Local Food BR+E



Wilmont Orchards (Clarington)

**Gates Open - 2022**  
**10 Farms – 2,500 visitors**  
**Brock, Clarington, Scugog & Uxbridge**



**Supporting  
Local**



**Culinary**



**Cycle  
Tourism**



**Agri-Tourism**



Banjo Cider – Uxbridge  
Bragg Farms – Bowmanville  
Gallery on the Farm - Hampton  
Nature's Bounty Farm - Port Perry  
Ocala Winery & Orchards – Port Perry  
Sargent Family Dairy – Enniskillen  
Tindall Farm & Market – Uxbridge  
Two Blokes Cider – Seagrave  
Villa Vida Loca Market – Sunderland  
Wool 4 Ewe Fibre Mill – Nestleton Station









 Gates Open