Management and Leadership

- **Environmental Policy Statement**

  In every aspect of The Goode Farm operation, we strive to be environmentally conscientious and good stewards of our land while deploying tools to enable us to be self-sufficient and profitable.

- **Annual Environmental Goals**

  The Goode Farm has a long-term environmental goal to help us move toward self-sufficiency and that is to supply all the electrical needs of the farm using solar photovoltaic panels.

- **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

  The Goode Farm relies solely on goats for sweet dairy milk not cows. Surprisingly, there are environmental and sustainable farming advantages to using goats instead of cows for milk.

  1. A milk cow (regardless of breed) is going to need significantly more acreage than goats. While you can feed 5 or more goats on 1 acre of good pasture, the rule of thumb is 1 head per acre with cattle.
  2. Goats can thrive on grass, weeds, or brush, a cow needs a pasture growing high quality grass. They won’t touch the weeds. If pasture is poor quality, there are economical ways to improve it over time, such as using goats to clear brush.
  3. A cow will consume roughly a bale of hay daily, where that same bale will last an adult goat for a week.
Waste

☑️ Recycling

All product packaging is recycled (plastic containers and paper packaging average several dozen pounds per week).

☑️ Composting

The Goode Farm is an environmentally sensitive company that uses a manure waste removal and recycling service that is a member of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Manure removed from our property is organically recycled by a farm required to have a manure management plan in place. Currently, a seven cubic yard dumpster of waste is removed from our dairy every few weeks.

In 2020, new crops began evaluation phases for future marketing. Our objective is to plant all new fields with our own on-site composted manure.

Energy

☑️ Energy Efficiency

Previously, all lighting was converted to CFC. However, replacement LED bulbs are now replacing all CFC bulbs. New buildings and old fixtures exclusively use LED bulbs. An average LED bulb’s lifespan ranges from 10 to 20 years (not to mention attracting fewer insects).

Transportation

☑️ Efficient Fleet Vehicles

Another goat vs. cow advantage has emerged in goat transportation. While transporting cows requires a large trailer, goats can fit in the back of a truck, SUV, or van. Using a trailer consumes more gas while producing more carbon than one fuel efficient vehicle (so, our goats travel without trailers).

Water

☑️ Water Conservation

Instead of drilling a second water well (that could hasten the depletion of our existing aquifer) or installing a rainwater harvesting cistern, we have successfully deployed a series of drip irrigation systems to curtail the farm’s
water demand. This single change has eliminated (or delayed) the need for additional water sources.

In planting our crops, we rely exclusively on the most efficient methods available. Natural rainfall is supplemented with water bags and drip irrigation. Both are very efficient at conserving this precision resource. Drip irrigation delivers an efficient .33 gallons of water per hour and offers the increased efficiency of delivering optional (organic) fertilizer with precision.

Profile Updated October 2021