



WOMEN LANDOWNER SPOTLIGHT: MARILEE AND KATIE POLACEK



Farm located outside
Bruno, Nebraska

LAND WITH A LEGACY

Marilee and her daughter, Katie, have farmland that has been in the Polacek family for 120 years. Since Marilee's husband, Louie, passed away 14 years ago, Marilee and her three children have mostly rented out the land for farming. Marilee has recently searched for a way to transition the farmland to her children.



The Polacek family is currently cash renting to a land operator.



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Marilee and Katie have participated in risk management, soil health, and beekeeping learning circles to learn about a variety of ways to improve their farm and their land. The women are constantly on the lookout for ways to address land transition to the next generation.



Katie is planning to take over five acres of the cropland to put it in a grass cover crop. They would also like to add some calves to start raising a few head of grass-fed beef.



Katie and Marilee Polacek, second and third from left, were attendees at a women's learning circle hosted by the Center for Rural Affairs.

WOMEN'S LEARNING CIRCLES

“ Many of the questions and hurdles I had been facing were addressed. It gave me hope when I heard other women tell their stories and share their ideas. It made me feel less alone in facing the future in regards to how the farm could go on and how changes could be made.

- Marilee Polacek

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End goal:

To make sure their land is around and farmable for another 120+ years.



The Polaceks, center, enjoy learning from fellow landowners. Networking and education are two powerful tools available through the Center for Rural Affairs' workshops and learning circles.



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