

As a member of Reeds & Roots Skillshare, a nonprofit project of Kelly's Working Well Farm, I'm writing to express my personal support of the farm and the Chagrin Valley School it hosts for home-schooled kids. Reeds & Roots is an organization dedicated to building community and sharing skills for earth-friendly living, the same goals of Kelly's farm and educational programming. We put on annual camping events where folks across Northeast Ohio and beyond can gather to learn together in nature.

Our family has been considering moving to the Chagrin Falls area, partly because of the farm and its role as a hub for sustainability-minded people interested in learning about farming and the natural world. While we entirely understand the need to keep children safe while they learn, we are deeply disappointed by the Bainbridge township zoning and fire departments' aggressive approach to handling any potential violations at the farm. Kelly Clark has indicated that she is more than willing to work with the fire marshal and zoning departments in order to rectify any violations and ensure a safe environment for the educational programming offered on the farm site. Storming the farm with an administrative search warrant and ambulances, levying fines, and preventing the farm from offering vital community programming is not the way to proceed. This course of action also means that my family is less likely to consider moving to your community.

Kelly's Working Well Farm is a vital, exciting project that contributes immeasurably to Bainbridge's community and draws people to the area. Please work *with* them to make sure the farm is safe—don't treat Kelly and her staff antagonistically when you could instead be supporting a wonderful community resource.

Respectfully yours,

Katharine Beutner
Reeds & Roots Skillshare (www.reedsandroots.org)