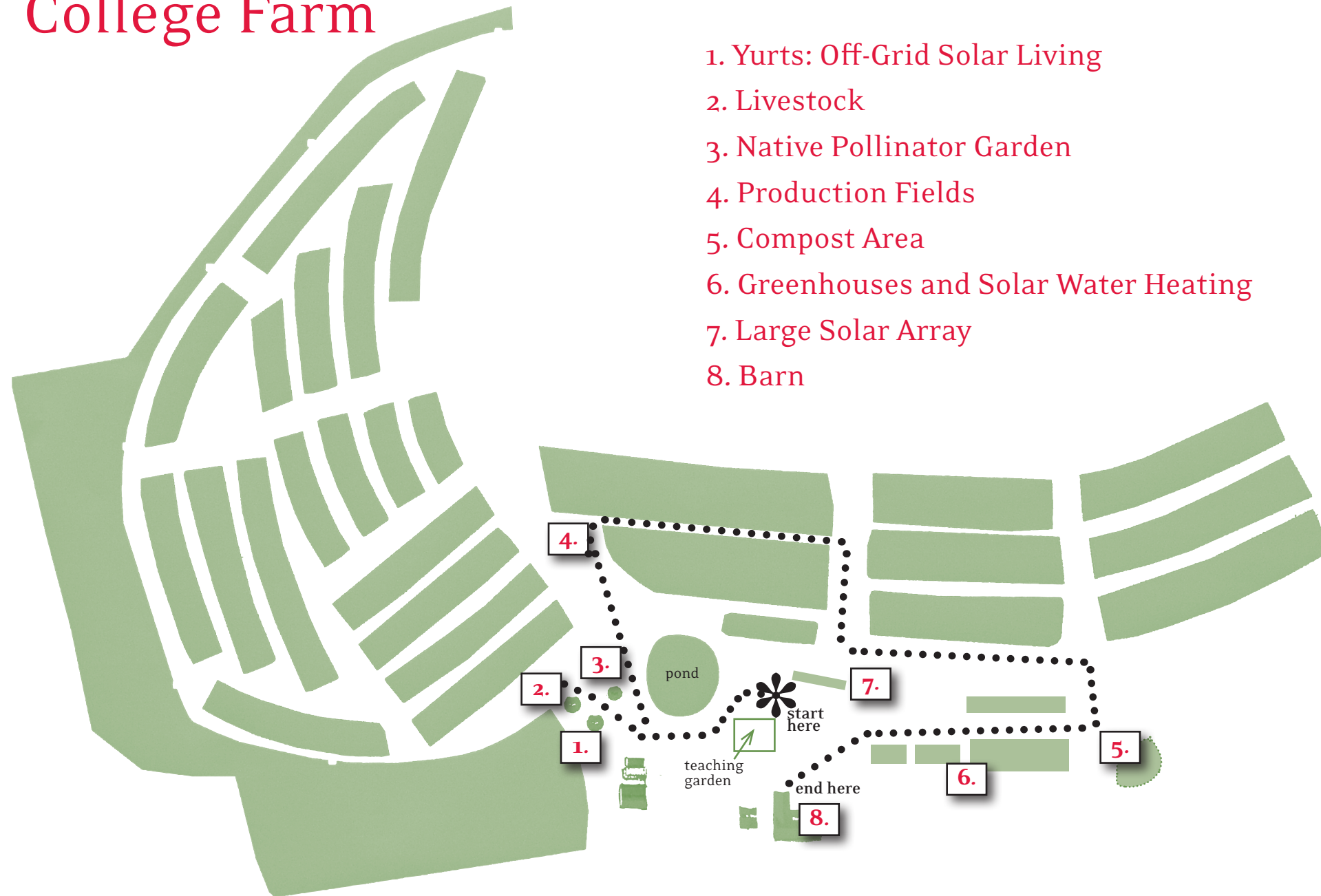
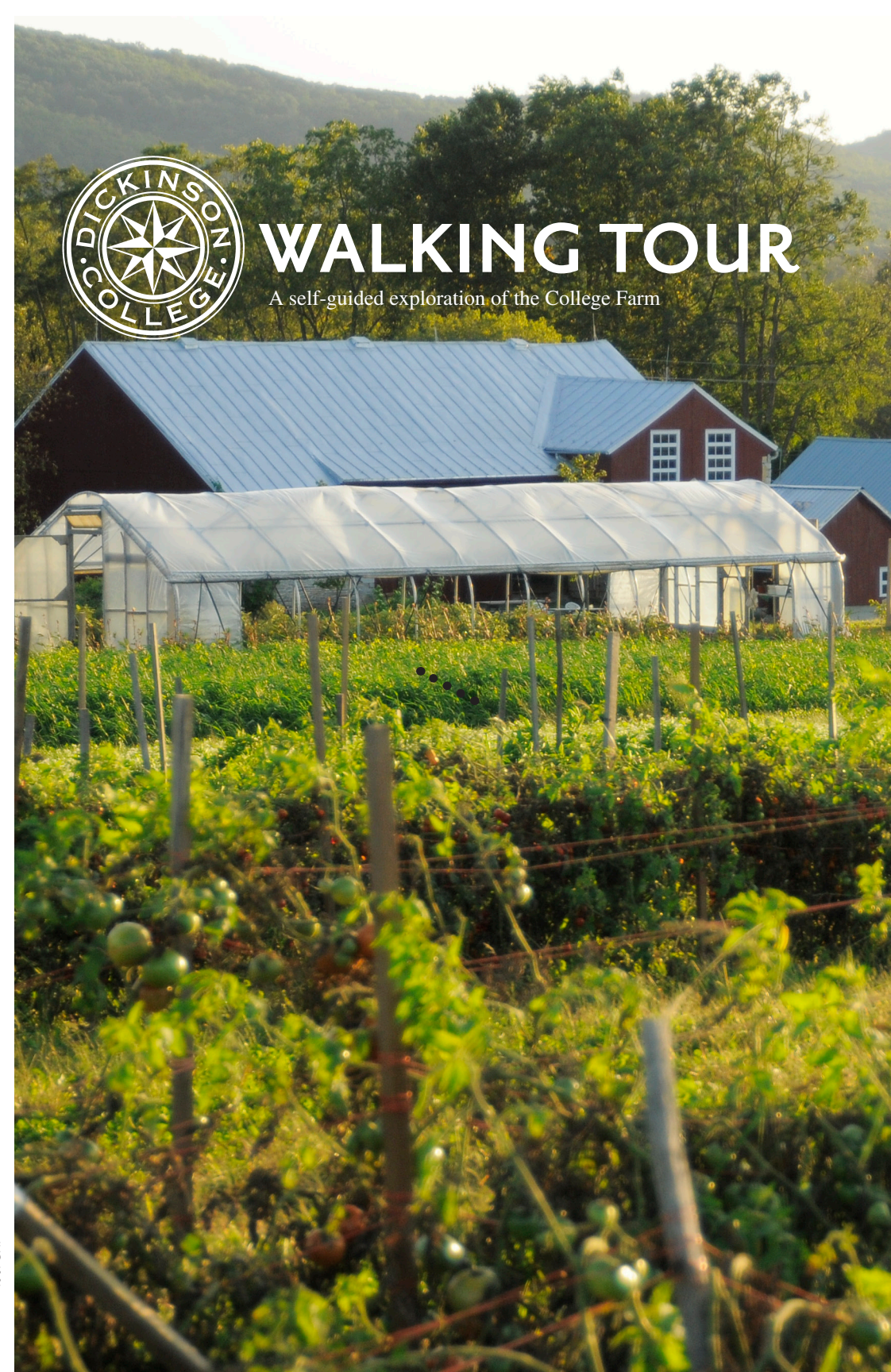


# Map of the College Farm

1. Yurts: Off-Grid Solar Living
2. Livestock
3. Native Pollinator Garden
4. Production Fields
5. Compost Area
6. Greenhouses and Solar Water Heating
7. Large Solar Array
8. Barn



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## WALKING TOUR

A self-guided exploration of the College Farm



Welcome to the Dickinson College Farm, a 180-acre, certified organic, working farm and educational resource that provides produce to the college’s Dining Hall, local food bank and members of the farm’s co-op. This tour will show you the “hot spots” and give you important information about what goes on at the farm. The tour will take about an hour with each stop being about seven minutes.



### 1. Yurts: Off-Grid Solar Living

- Seasonal interns have been living in the yurts since 2008.
- All of the electricity used in these buildings comes from the four 195-watt solar panels located just uphill of the pollinator garden.
- Solar power is stored in a large battery bank located in the largest yurt for use in the evenings and cloudy days.
- Yurts provide an example of simple, unconventional living structures for seasonal and year-round accommodations.



### 2. Livestock

- All livestock are raised on a pasture through rotational grazing, which is a method of periodically moving livestock to fresh paddocks to allow pastures to re-grow.
- The farm has sheep, chickens, cows and ducks.
- The livestock diversify the farm while helping those who consume animal products to connect with their food supply in a humane relationship.
- All animal products are sold to the campus community.
- If you don’t see animals it is most likely because they are in a distant paddock.



### 3. Native Pollinator Garden

- In 2009 the College Farm added a pollinator garden as part of a long-term study with Penn State University.
- Pollinators (small insects and animals such as bumble bees and birds) move pollen from flower to flower as they feed on nectar.
- The garden is 100 by 20 feet with several outlying trees and shrubs.
- The farm is currently using the garden to survey the populations of native bees.
- Other efforts at sustainable land management include several similar biodiversity plantings around the farm, including many new tree lines, bird boxes and reptile habitats aimed at enhancing and studying populations of beneficial organisms.

### 4. Production Fields

- Total of 13 acres for crop production.
- Fields are fertilized with nitrogen-rich leguminous cover crops and compost made from Dining Hall food waste.
- Produce raised on the farm is provided to the college Dining Hall, a campus community co-op program, the downtown farmers’ market and the local food bank.
- The College Farm maintains a healthy balance between growing vibrant crops and increasing soil fertility through a practice called crop rotation.

### 5. Compost Area

- The composting program was developed in 2002 and expanded thanks to a grant in 2007.
- More than 700 pounds of food waste are composted each day at the farm where it is turned into fertilizer rather than ending up in a landfill.

### 6. Greenhouses and Solar Water Heating

- The greenhouses allow the farm to extend its growing season into the colder months.
- The large greenhouse is heated using six solar thermal collectors.
- On cloudy days, the solar-heating system is backed up by a biodiesel-fueled boiler.
- The greenhouses also provide an environment for students to work during the winter months.



### 7. Large Solar Array

- Provides electricity to the barn and greenhouses.
- Connects to the utility through a grid-tied inverter.
- Produces 5.25 kilowatts in full sun which results in about 30 kilowatt hours per day, enough to power an average home.
- Averts production of tens of thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide.
- Purchased in 2007 with the help of an energy harvest grant from the state Department of Environmental Protection.
- The farm is a renewable energy teaching center where students and community members learn about solar-energy systems.



### 8. Barn

- Traditional Pennsylvania bank barn.
- The barn serves as storage for supplies and hay, includes a “seed room” for seed drying and storage and is a venue for events.
- The lower barn is the hub of the produce operation. It’s also the pick-up point for the farm’s Campus Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program.

- All of the drains in the floor, as well as the gutters on the barn roof, are channeled into an underground cistern. This gray water is then used to irrigate the farm’s compost piles.

Learn more about the College Farm at [www.dickinson.edu/about/sustainability/college-farm](http://www.dickinson.edu/about/sustainability/college-farm).