

Riparian Project Logistics

Planting the Seeds of a Riparian Project



History

- ▶ Started in 2001
(Martin Farm and Troyer Farm)
- ▶ Over 100 projects to date
- ▶ Every school district and school in Crawford County
- ▶ Clymer, NY and Union City, Erie Co.
- ▶ Over 80,000 trees and shrubs
- ▶ 1000's of students



Number One Rule

- ▶ There is no magic formula.
 - Each project site, class, teacher, landowner is unique.
 - Don't use a one size fits all approach to your program.



Project Basics

- ▶ Project site with a willing landowner
- ▶ Volunteer group willing to participate
- ▶ Funding
- ▶ Partners
- ▶ Preparation, Planning, more Planning
- ▶ Leadership
 - In the classroom
 - In the field



Who can help?

- ▶ Identify willing partners!
- ▶ How do you find them?
 - Government agencies
 - local conservation organizations
 - Colleges and universities
 - Others
- ▶ How do you use them?
 - Specialized skill sets
 - Funding potential
 - On site coordination



Where does the Project Site come from?

- ▶ How do you find a site?
 - You have a site in mind
 - Partners locate a site
 - Student/teacher have a site in mind
 - Public interest in participating



Funding

- ▶ This can be the toughest part of the project.
- ▶ Funding is variable, there is no one stop source.
 - Federal
 - State
 - Non-profit
- ▶ This is where your partners will be valuable!
- ▶ Get Creative
 - Livestakes
 - Donated material



Preparation, Planning, more Planning

- ▶ Preparation and Planning is key!!!
- ▶ Make sure every detail is covered, then cover them again.
- ▶ Learn from past experiences.

“Those who fail to plan, plan to fail”



Leadership - Schools

► In the classroom

■ Educators

- Why are they doing this project (learn about the science)
- Prepare them for the field day (split into groups, etc.)

■ Student Leaders

- Help prepare the students
- A good opportunity to gain experience working with conservation organizations
- Gain leadership skills



Leadership – in the field

► In the field

■ Team Leaders

- Educators, partners, student leaders guide the project throughout the day.

■ Unexpected Leaders

- Students that step up during the field day.



Be Organized

- ▶ When the students arrive it is controlled chaos.
- ▶ Have everything ready to go.
- ▶ Maintain equipment
 - Tools with lifetime warranty
 - Equipment Trailer



CCCD WS Role in Crawford County's Program

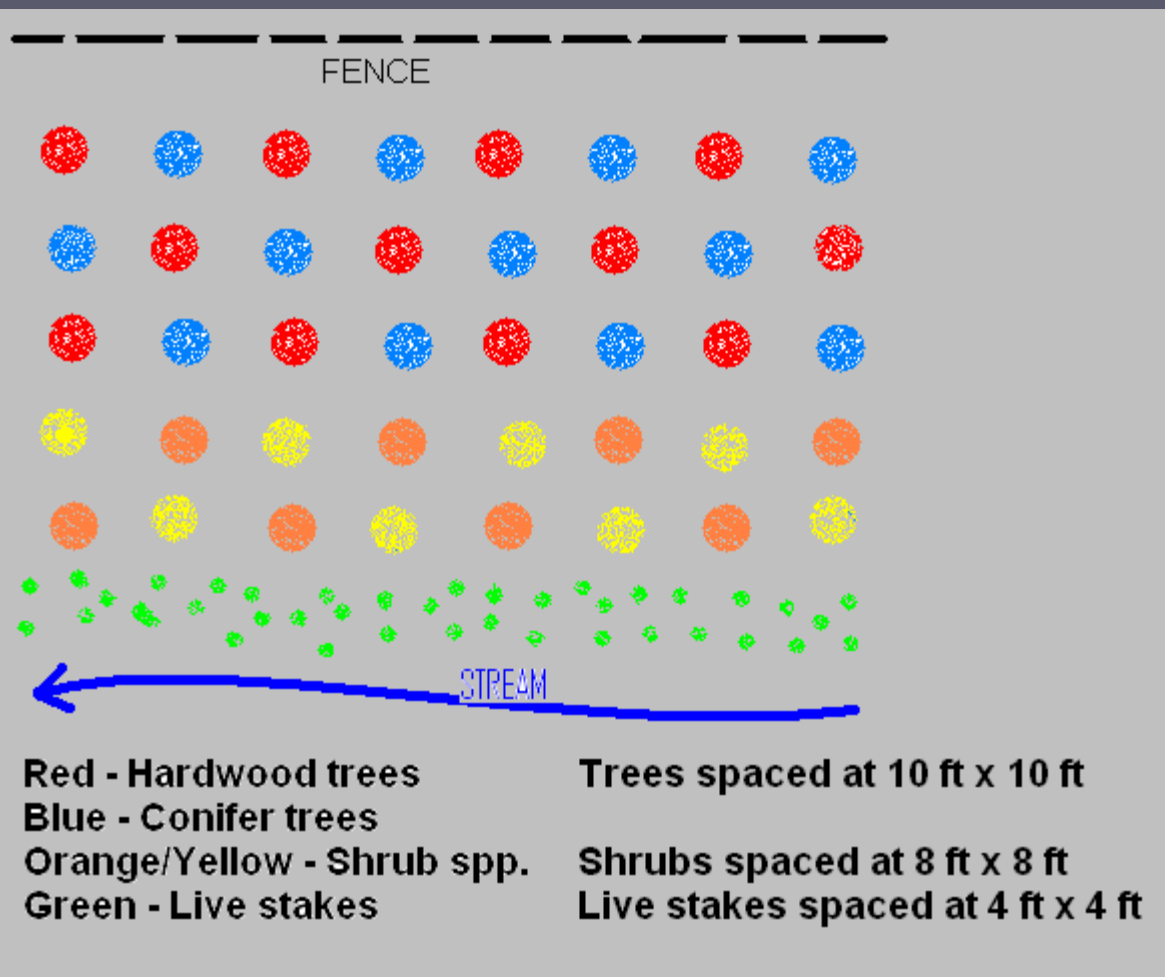
- ▶ Secure funding
- ▶ Organize schedules
 - Schools
 - Partners
- ▶ Coordinate logistical support
 - Portable Restrooms
 - Transportation
- ▶ Onsite coordination
- ▶ Contact media
- ▶ Secure and maintain equipment
- ▶ Complete reporting requirements



Service Forester Responsibilities

- ▶ Finding landowners and projects
- ▶ Project scouting (sizing it up)
- ▶ Planting plans
- ▶ Ordering materials and plant care
- ▶ Site preparation
- ▶ Scheduling (fitting it all in)





Challenges encountered over the years

- ▶ School schedules.....
- ▶ Funding limitations.....
- ▶ Minimum buffer requirements.....
- ▶ Unexpected weather.....
- ▶ Less than enthusiastic volunteers....
- ▶ Most students have never run a shovel....



Final Thoughts

- ▶ Remember, these are not just service projects tapping into free labor, and they are not just about teaching biology or ecology. They are also about fostering a stewardship ethic and a sense of ownership of our resources in our future generations.

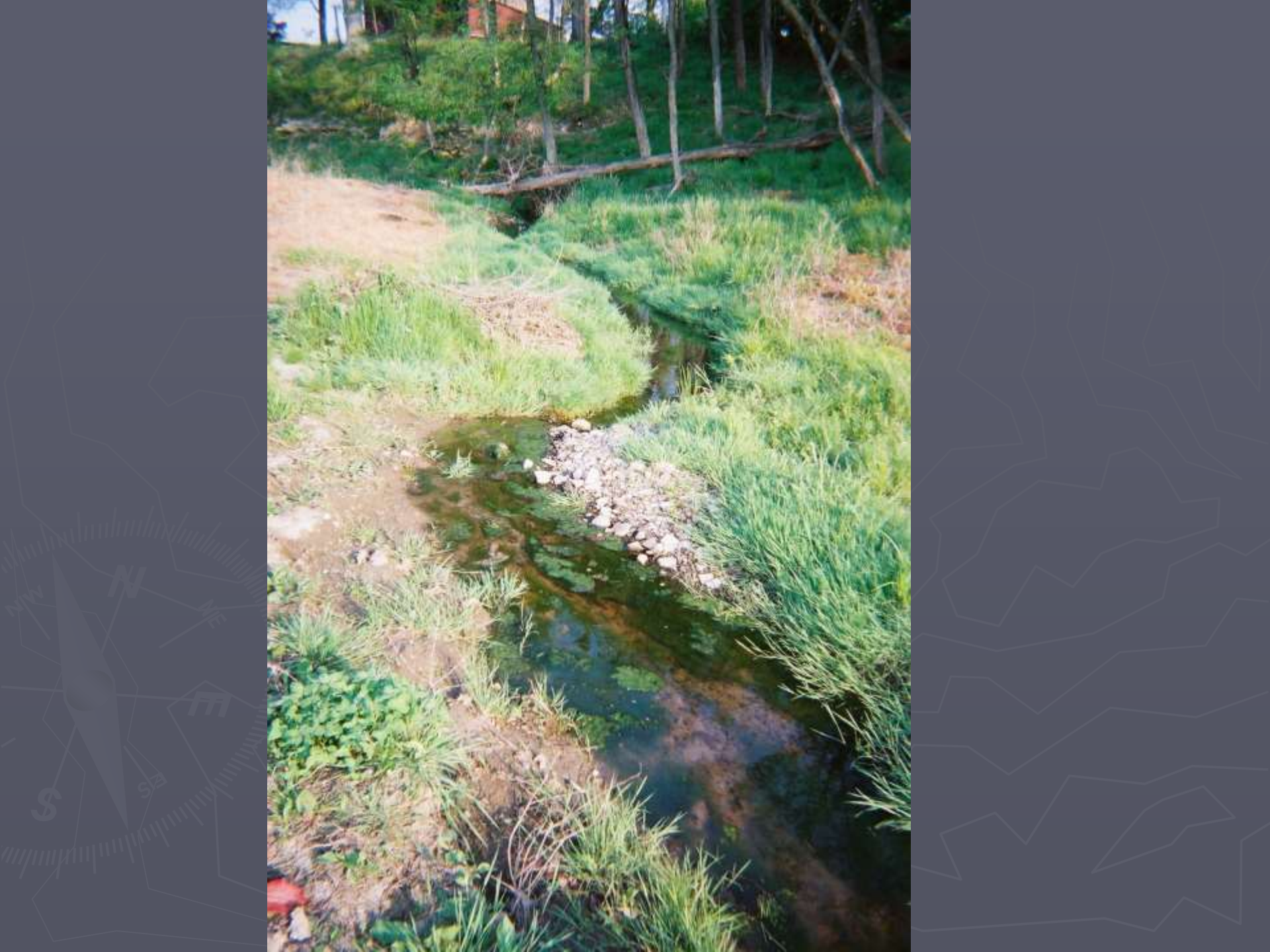


Rendulic Farm

UNT to Shenango River
Planted by Conneaut Lake High School
in 2004

Rendulic project during planting by Conneaut Lake High School







Rendulic project during planting by Conneaut Lake High School

Rendulic project during planting by Conneaut Lake High School



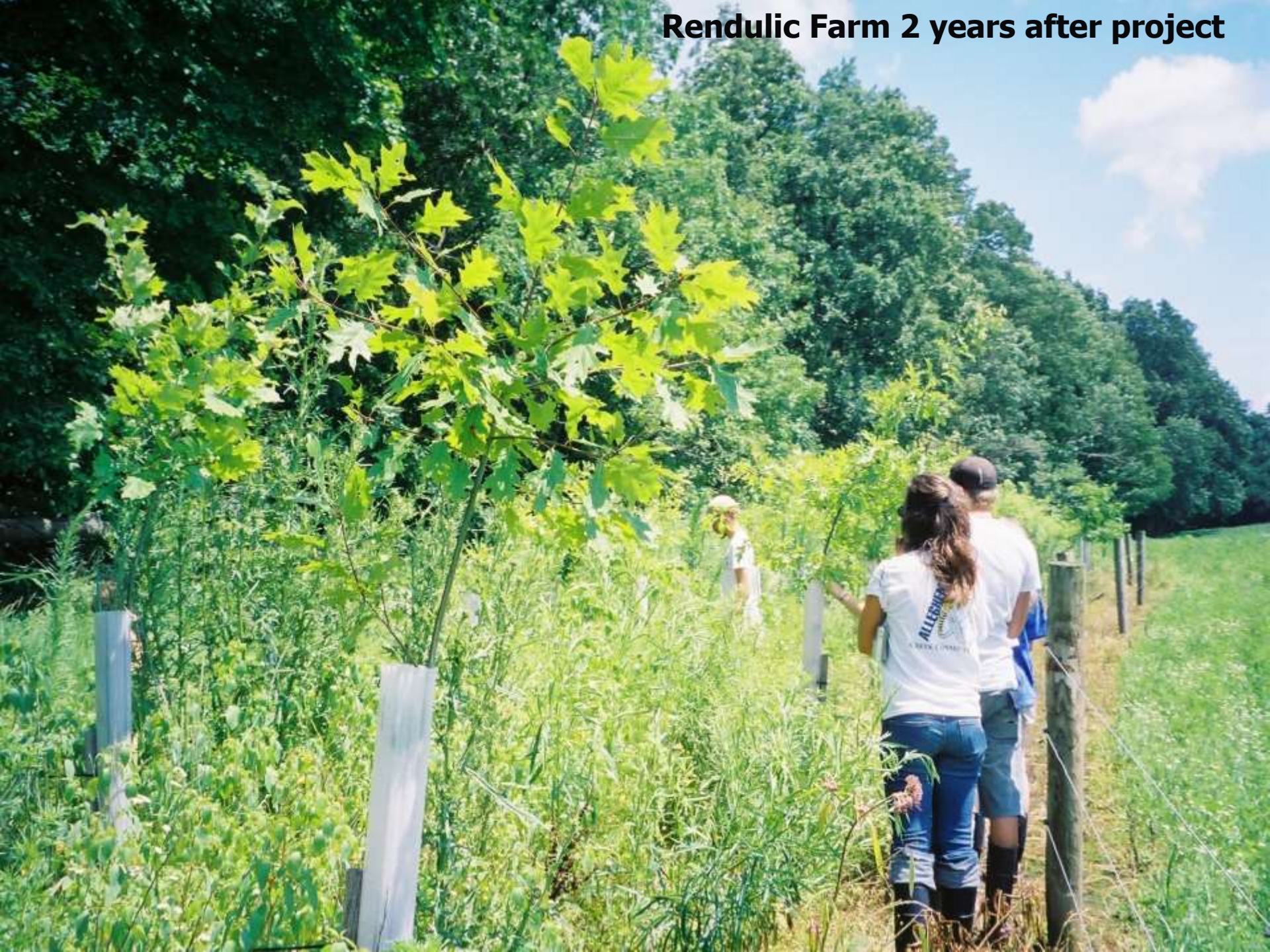


Rendulic project during planting by Conneaut Lake High School



Rendulic project during planting by Conneaut Lake High School

Rendulic Farm 2 years after project





Rendulic Farm 2 years after project

Rendulic Farm 2 years after project



Rendulic Farm 6 years after project



Rendulic Farm 6 years after project



Rendulic Farm 6 years after project



Rendulic Farm 6 years after project



Rendulic Farm 6 years after project



Contact Information

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