

About Lisa Kivirist

Lisa Kivirist embodies the growing “ecopreneuring” movement: innovative entrepreneurs who successfully blend business with making the world a better place. A Senior Fellow, Endowed Chair in Agricultural Systems at the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture at the University of Minnesota and a Kellogg Food & Community Fellow, Lisa’s work focuses on championing rural leadership opportunities amongst female farmers and food-based entrepreneurs. Lisa founded and directs the award-winning Rural Women’s Project, an innovative initiative of the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service designed to support women farmers and food businesses by providing networking, training and support. She also helped found a national collaborative venture “Plate to Politics” that provides leadership training for women in sustainable agriculture.

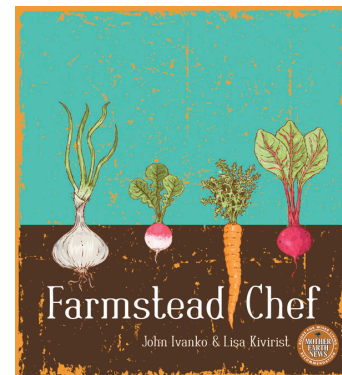
Lisa is co-author, with her husband, John Ivanko, of ***Homemade for Sale***, ***Farmstead Chef***, ***Edible Earth***, the award-winning, ***ECOpreneuring***, a compact, dynamic tool kit for a fresh approach to entrepreneurial thinking, blending passion for protecting and preserving the planet with small business pragmatics, as well as ***Rural Renaissance***, capturing the American dream of farm living for contemporary times. Her next book (January, 2016 release), ***Soil Sisters: A Toolkit for Women Growing Food*** supports women farmers with agriculture business training through a gender lens. In addition to feature writing for publications such as *Hobby Farms*, *Mother Earth News*, *MaryJanes Farm* and *Edible Madison*, Lisa is a lead writer for Renewing the Countryside, a non-profit organization showcasing rural entrepreneurial and agricultural success stories and contributed to ***Renewing the Countryside: Wisconsin***. She also works with the organization on a unique farmer-led training program for businesses looking to diversity into on-farm food service like farm-to-table dinners.

An engaging public speaker and workshop facilitator, Kivirist has keynoted and conducted small group sessions on topics related to women farmers, local food, green business, rural entrepreneurship and food business start-ups, women entrepreneurship and sustainable living issues at a variety of venues, including Mother Earth News Fairs, The Creative Connection, the Midwest Renewable Energy & Sustainable Living Fair, the MOSES Organic Farming Conference, Penn State Green Design Conference, and numerous colleges, universities, libraries and a wide range of organizations.

Lisa runs the award-winning Inn Serendipity® Bed & Breakfast and Farm with her family in southwest Wisconsin. The Inn is completely powered by renewable energy and considered among the “Top Ten Eco-Destinations in North America.” She shares her farm with her husband, their son, a 10kW wind turbine and millions of ladybugs. For more information, visit innserendipity.com



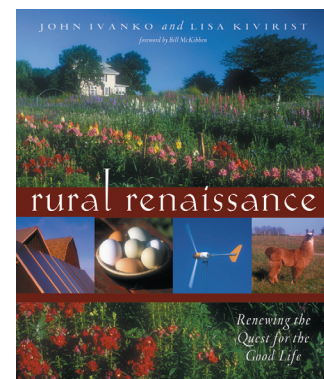
Homemade for Sale (New Society)
homemadeforsale.com



Farmstead Chef (New Society)
farmsteadchef.com



ECOpreneuring (New Society)
ecopreneuring.biz



Rural Renaissance: Renewing the Quest for the Good Life (New Society)
ruralrenaissance.org