



Illinois Agri-Women Coffee Chats – 2023
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Shelby Best



Shelby holds a BSc in Psychology from Loyola University Chicago and an MSc in Environmental Technology from Imperial College London.

Shelby manages several American Farmland Trust (AFT) programs across the Midwest region. Before joining AFT, Shelby was the Sustainability & Resiliency Coordinator at Region 1 Planning Council, where she led sustainability planning work for local governments across the Northern Illinois region. Examples of projects she led there include a regional greenways plan and update, a solid waste management plan, and a climate action plan for a local public transit agency.

Prior to that, Shelby worked for several conservation organizations, frequently meeting with landowners to assist in conserving and protecting their land. Shelby has a multi-disciplinary background in conservation, communications, research, planning, policy, and economics.