Sketching out selected personal aspects of a retirement lifestyle plan

First, think about each of these questions as you personally view them. Then, place a check mark next to those areas you think you and your spouse/other parties should discuss. It is important to think only about your own ideas first, and then discuss them with your spouse/others.

Working/Volunteering

- How much time should I (we) spend working: On the farm: ___________________________; Off the farm: ___________________________

- How much will I (we) continue to be involved with the daily activities of the farming operation?
  ____________________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________________

- When will I (we) discuss how my (our) retirement plans will affect those involved in the daily operation of the farm?
  ____________________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________________

- What types of volunteer/community activities do I (we) plan to be involved in?
  ____________________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________________

Leisure/Personal Development/Faith Activities

- What types of recreational activities or hobbies do I (we) plan to get involved in?
  ____________________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________________

- What types of self-improvement activities do I (we) plan to get involved in?
  ____________________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________________

- I (we) have the following travel plans:
  ____________________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________________

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Relationships with spouse/others:

- How much time should we (spouse and I) spend together? When? Doing what?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________

- How much time do I (my spouse) need alone? Doing what?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________

- How should I (we) relate to our children? Aging parents? Grandchildren?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________

- Should we each have our own friends as well as friends in common?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________

- How should I (we) go about making new friends?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________

Health

- What plans should I (we) have for maintaining health through diet, exercise, etc.?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________

- How will retirement affect our health insurance coverage?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________

- How will I (we) deal with the affects of a long-term or serious illness if my (our) aging parent(s) becomes ill?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________

- If I (one of us) or my (our) children become ill?  
  ___________________________________________________________________________
  ___________________________________________________________________________
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- How will I (we) handle questions of terminating life support systems if that become necessary?

Living arrangements

- Does my (our) current home meet my (our) goals, needs?

- What changes need to be considered to make our home a safe, user-friendly place as I (we) age?

- Shall I (we) remain in my (our) present community or move to a different one? Where?

Finances

- What yet needs to be done to transfer our farm assets and how will this affect our sources of income?

- How will we determine how the money should be spent?

- How much money should each of us have to spend as we choose, without having to consult each other?

- How will we reduce living expenses in retirement, if needed?
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- How will we increase income if we need to do that?
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________

- How much of our income will come from using up our assets, and how much will come from other sources?
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________

- If I (we) continue to work, how will that affect my (our) retirement benefits?
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________