>Is there a town nearby that could use some temporary labor?

Well, nearby is subjective. I don’t like dealing with all the loud townfolks and critters. Plus, too many thieves around. There is one about half a day’s trek on foot you can get to though.

>With them working for you, the garden can be more productive; and you won't have to worry about varmints, they know starvation; and due the war maybe they will be able to ration the resources you give them

>Set ‘em to digging trenches! You can give ‘em the old stuff that’s about to go bad.

“Alright, I’ll let you varmints stay for two days. Then you’re packing it up and heading off to town to go bother someone else. You’re going to be working your fluffy lil rear ends off to fix my farm and crops though!”

The small army of rabbits cheer with excitement.

“Now start fortifying the fields, dig me some trenches. Survey the area and find any easy entry-“

Grande Marshall Bunelope: “Hold it! I’m the Grande Marshall here. I’ll be the one to order my troops, thank you very much. Now! Start digging trenches, those pesky squirrels won’t even see what shot’em!”

Hm, I don’t remember there being any squirrels around these parts?

The troops whip out and unfold their shovels and start digging me some trenches. I head the other way, and water my crops.

Before we know it, nightfall hits us.

Everyone is uneasy though. Echoes of strange high pitched barks fill the fields… worry is clearly amongst the troops.