

Bay Area Urban Farming Resource Guide

A list to get you started on your urban farming endeavors!

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

EDUCATIONAL & RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

University of California Cooperative Extension

<http://cealameda.ucdavis.edu/>

(510) 670-5650

UC Agriculture and Natural Resources delivers healthy food systems, healthy environments, healthy communities and healthy Californians. UC ANR hosts the California Master Gardener Program: <http://mg.ucanr.edu/> which has been extending UC research based information about home horticulture and pest management to the public.

UC ANR Urban Ag

<http://ucanr.edu/urbanag>

Are you interested in starting an urban farm? Seeking details on how to raise backyard chickens and bees? Looking for information on laws, zoning and regulations that relate to urban agriculture? We offer resources on small-scale production, including soil, planting, irrigation, pest management, and harvesting, as well as information on the business of farming, such as how to market urban farm products.

Berkeley Food Institute

<https://food.berkeley.edu/>

The Berkeley Food Institute seeks to transform food systems to expand access to healthy, affordable food and promote sustainable and equitable food

production. We empower new leaders with capacities to cultivate diverse, just, resilient, and healthy food systems.

Growing Roots

<https://growingroots.berkeley.edu/>

growingroots@berkeley.edu

The long-term goal of the government-supported Growing Roots project is to support the economic and ecological viability of California beginning farmers and ranchers from diverse communities – whether urban, rural or peri-urban, or Latino, Southeast Asian, African or Caucasian. Offers in-depth, culturally- and regionally-appropriate workshops, develop and distribute educational materials and videos, host field days and farm tours.

UC Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Program (SAREP)

<http://asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sarep>

(530) 752-3915

Agricultural Sustainability Institute (ASI)

University of California at Davis

asi@ucdavis.edu

SAREP is a statewide program within UC Agriculture and Natural Resources and is a unit of the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis.

SAREP provides leadership and support for scientific research and education in agricultural and food

systems that are economically viable, conserve natural resources and biodiversity, and enhance the quality of life in the state's communities. SAREP serves farmers, farmworkers, ranchers, researchers, educators, regulators, policy makers, industry professionals, consumers, and community organizations across the state.

Sustainable Agriculture Education (SAGE)

The David Brower Center
Berkeley, CA

<http://www.sagecenter.org>

(510) 526-1793

info@sagecenter.org

Through our two linked programs – Urban-Edge Agricultural Revitalization and Urban-Rural Connections – SAGE works to revitalize agricultural places that sustain, contain and define cities and to connect urban and rural communities for their mutual benefit.

As a lean, entrepreneurial nonprofit organization, we use a collaborative approach to develop pioneering projects and provide technical services in the Bay Area and beyond. Our partners and clients include public agencies, land trusts, farmers and agricultural associations, planning and economic consultancy firms, public-interest organizations, educators, health experts, and urban and rural community groups.

GOVERNMENT GROUPS & AGENCIES

Alameda County Resource Conservation District

www.acrcd.org

(925) 371-0154

ACRCD and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) collaborate as the Conservation Partnership to serve as the lead conservation agency in Alameda County to provide technical and educational services for natural resource conservation and agriculture enhancement.

ATTRA Sustainable Agriculture Program

NCAT's Western Office - Davis, CA

<https://attra.ncat.org>

(530) 792-7338

(800) 411-3222

ATTRA is a program developed and managed by the National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT). We are committed to providing high value information and technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, Extension agents, educators, and others involved in sustainable agriculture in the United States, especially those who are economically disadvantaged or belong to traditionally underserved

communities. NCAT strives to make our information available to everyone who needs it. If you are a limited-access or low-income farmer and find that one of our publications is just not in your budget, please call 800-346-9140.

East Bay Municipal Utility District

<http://www.ebmud.com/>

1-866-403-2683

custsvc@ebmud.com

EBMUD provides high-quality drinking water for 1.4 million customers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Their WaterSmart gardener is your go-to resource center for outdoor water conservation, with incentives, tips, services, events, and more. EBMUD offers monetary rewards to community organizations who create publicly accessible community gardens or urban farm projects that demonstrate water conserving principles. These gardens are a great tool to help the public learn about ways to save water in the urban landscape.

Oakland Unified School District School Gardens Program

Grey Kolevzon, Garden Education Coordinator

(510) 776-5556

Grey.kolevzon@ousd.org

<http://www.ousd.org/domain/100>

OUSD Garden Education's goal is to establish and maintain a garden in every school. School gardens provide urban children access to nature and reflect each child's inherent right to access healthy, locally-produced food; understanding of food systems and the natural cycle; social, economic and health justice; hands-on alternatives to testing-based instruction; self-reliance and character-building opportunities; and connection to the local community.

Project Eat

<http://projecteat.acoe.org/>

(510) 670-4544

Project Eat aims to end health inequities and close the achievement gap in school communities.

Republic Services

www.republicservices.com

1 (877) 692-9729

Republic Services, Inc is the second largest provider of non-hazardous solid waste collection, transfer, disposal, recycling, and energy services in the United States.

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

www.sfwater.org

(510) 554-0761 Commission Secretary

(510) 554-3289 General Inquiries

Contact: Amy Dawson

adawson@sfwater.org

Refer to: Nancy Ceridwyn, Youth Education Program

The SFPUC is responsible for the storage, quality control and distribution of the area's drinking water, and is a longtime supporter of urban agriculture projects including The Garden Project, The Garden for the Environment, and the Sunol Ag Park.

StopWaste

www.stopwaste.org

(510) 891-6500

StopWaste is a public agency responsible for reducing the waste stream in Alameda County by helping local governments, businesses, schools, and residents reduce waste through source reduction and recycling, market development, technical assistance, and public education.

Waste Management

www.wm.com

1 (866) 909-4458

Waste Management partners with customers and communities to provide waste disposal and recycling solutions that create clean, renewable energy.

United States Department of Agriculture – Urban Agriculture

<https://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/urban-agriculture>

Explore information and tools on urban agriculture, including the *Urban Agriculture Toolkit*.

Your Local Parks

Check with your local city Parks and/or Public Works Departments for community gardening resources and programs.

For questions on Public Health and Nutrition:

Alameda County Public Health Department

1000 Broadway, Suite 500

Oakland, CA 94607

(510) 267-8000 Phone

<http://www.acphd.org/programs-and-services.aspx>

For questions on Food Safety:

Alameda County Environmental Health Department

1131 Harbor Bay Parkway

Alameda, CA 94502-6577

(510) 567-6700

<https://www.acgov.org/aceh/>

For permitting of Approved Source Farms, Farmer's Markets Certification and Pesticide Regulation and Enforcement:

Alameda County Department of Agriculture

224 W. Winton Ave. Room 184

Hayward, CA 94544

(510) 670-5232 Phone

<https://www.acgov.org/cda/awm/>

The Alameda County Department of Agriculture / Weights and Measures promotes the Alameda County agricultural industry, protects the environment and the general public, and provides buyers and sellers a fair marketplace. We are the local enforcement authority for the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

POLICY & ADVOCACY GROUPS

Berkeley Food Policy Council

<http://ecologycenter.org/berkeley-food-policy-council/>

The BFPC is a coalition of local organizers, activists, visionaries, and entrepreneurs who work towards promoting regional agriculture and community access to healthy food. The BFPC was established in 1999 and meets on a quarterly basis.

ChangeLab Solutions

<http://www.changelabsolutions.org>

(510) 302-3380

ChangeLab Solutions' Healthy Planning program is pioneering a new approach to public health advocacy. Explore our model policies, how-to guides, fact sheets, and other policy tools as well as resources, technical assistance, and trainings. We provide the tools to promote urban agriculture through land use policies, address liability concerns, negotiate with property owners, and encourage community participation.

Eden Area Food Alliance

<http://www.acfpc.org>

(510) 909-4077

The resident-driven ACFPC advises local government on policy in order to establish an equitable and secure food system for the Eden Area community.

Food First

<https://foodfirst.org/>

info@foodfirst.org

(510) 654-4400.

Food First's mission is to end the injustices that cause hunger. We support activists, social movements, alliances, and coalitions working for systemic change. Our work—including action-oriented research, publications, projects and Food Sovereignty Tours—gives you the tools to understand the global challenges, build your local movement, and engage with the global movement for food sovereignty.

Oakland Food Policy Council

Shaniece Alexander, MSW, Council Director

<http://oaklandfood.org/>

salexander@oaklandfood.org

Food is our focus and policy is our tool, but we are nothing if not a gathering of the community first.

Santa Clara Food Systems Alliance

<http://fsa-scc.squarespace.com/>

scc.alliance@gmail.com

The Alliance is a collaborative of stakeholders concerned with issues of healthy food access, agricultural production and food distribution in Santa Clara County. The Alliance collaborates with stakeholders in our neighboring counties that share concerns about the same issues.

San Francisco Urban Ag Alliance

<http://www.sfuua.org/>

The San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance (SFUAA) promotes the growing of food within San Francisco and the associated goals of our member

organizations, through advocacy, education and grassroots action. Add yourself to their listserve.

SPUR

Oakland, SF, and San Jose

<http://www.spur.org/>

SPUR is a member-supported nonprofit organization. Through research, education and advocacy, SPUR promotes good planning and good government in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Sustainable Economies Law Center (SELC)

<http://www.theselc.org>

(510) 398-6219

SELC cultivates a new legal landscape that supports community resilience and grassroots economic empowerment. We provide essential legal tools so communities everywhere can develop their own sustainable sources of food, housing, energy, jobs, and other vital aspects of a thriving community. Check out extensive resources on Urban Ag Law here: <http://www.urbanaglaw.org/>

REGIONAL FOOD GROUPS

Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture (CUESA)

<http://www.cuesa.org/>

info@cuesa.org

(415) 291-3276

CUESA is dedicated to cultivating a sustainable food system through the operation of farmers markets and educational programs.

Common Vision

Michael Flynn

(831) 588-9914

info@commonvision.org

www.commonvision.org

Let's work together to ensure fresh fruit grows in every schoolyard.

Ecological Farming Association

<https://eco-farm.org/>

(831) 763-2111

info@eco-farm.org

The Ecological Farming Association (EcoFarm) is a non-profit educational organization whose mission is to nurture safe, healthy, just, and ecologically sustainable farms, food systems, and communities by bringing people together for education, alliance building, advocacy, and celebration. Popular for their annual Ecological Farming Conference.

La Mesa Verde

San Jose

<https://valley-verde-ca.myshopify.com/>

(408) 282-3110

La Mesa Verde (The Green Table) is a leadership network of urban gardeners who create access to healthy food, a program of San Jose's Sacred Heart Community Service. The UCCE Master Gardener program is collaborating with Sacred Heart Community Service providing bilingual gardening courses for new home gardeners, visiting families at their home to offer individualized training & support and growing quality unique seedlings for La Mesa Verde to purchase at a reduced rate for families in the program.

LEAF

<http://fremontleaf.org/>

(510) 517-3219

FremontLEAF@gmail.com

LEAF is a volunteer organization bringing people together to grow healthy pesticide free food and to learn about environmentally sustainable gardening and ecological practices.

Valley Verde

<https://valley-verde-ca.myshopify.com/>

Valley Verde is a nonprofit organization that helps residents in Santa Clara County grow their own vegetables. We provide low income families with the knowledge and tools needed to grow and maintain their own organic vegetable gardens at no cost. We sell gardening services and kits to individuals, organizations and businesses. Proceeds from sales are used to help more low-income families start their own organic vegetable gardens.

URBAN FARMS

Acta Non Verba: Youth Urban Farm Project

Oakland, CA

www.anvfarm.org

(510) 878-7235

info@anvfarm.org

ANV elevates life in the inner city by challenging oppressive dynamics and environments through urban farming.

City Slicker Farms

Oakland, CA

<http://www.cityslickerfarms.org/>

(510) 763-4241

City Slicker Farms empowers West Oakland community members to meet the basic need for healthy food for themselves and their families by creating organic, sustainable, and high-yield urban farms and backyard gardens.

Dig Deep Farms

www.digdeefarms.com

Hilary Bass, Executive Director, Community Events

hbass@acgov.org

(510) 614-3337

csa@digdeepfarms.com

Dig Deep Farms is providing healthy food, healthy jobs, and helping build a healthy community by delivering fresh local produce right to your door.

Eden Area Urban Farms

Rick Hatcher

(510) 909-4077

Eden Area Urban Farms provides consultation in areas of urban farm creation: Local laws and ordinances, planting development, soil management, animal husbandry; and Urban farming education: school gardens, community gardens, and agency-driven gardens.

Fertile Groundworks

www.fertilegroundworks.org

(925) 371-5615

Fertile Groundworks is a learning garden that provides organically grown and sustainable crops to help feed the hungry in Livermore.

Farms to Grow

Oakland, CA

www.farmstogrow.com

Farms to Grow, Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to working with Black farmers and underserved sustainable farmers around the country. Farms To Grow, Inc. is committed to sustainable farming and innovative agriculture practices which preserve the cultural and biological diversity, the agroecological balance of the local environment.

Garden for the Environment

7th Ave and Lawton St., San Francisco

<http://www.gardenfortheenvironment.org/>

info@gardenfortheenvironment.org

(415) 558-8246

Our mission is to provide practical skills for all San Franciscans to personally contribute to sustainability through urban gardens, farms, and food. Whether you are a new gardener or an experienced urban farmer, we have workshops for you in our nationally acclaimed teaching garden.

Grow Incubator

Oakland, CA

<https://growincubator.org/>

(510) 612-2260

Christine Hernandez

christine@growincubator.org

GROW Incubator is a space to collaborate, network, skillshare, and GROW. We are home to entrepreneurs, artists and activists, who are looking to build GrassRoots power in the Movement for self-determination. We're a community brought together by a shared passion for social justice.

New Roots Program at International Rescue Committee

<https://www.rescue.org/>

Zack Reidman, New Roots Program Manager

Zack.reidman@rescue.org

(510) 852-8923

The International Rescue Committee is a global humanitarian aid, relief and development nongovernmental organization.

New Hope Farms

Pinole, CA

(510) 637-9399

info@newhopefarms.com

New Hope Farms is a worker-owned cooperative farm producing healthy, affordable food especially for vulnerable communities.

Planting Justice

Oakland, CA

<http://www.plantingjustice.org/>

(510) 290-4049

Since 2009 Planting Justice has built over 400 edible permaculture gardens in the San Francisco Bay Area, worked with five high-schools to develop food justice curriculum and created 20 green jobs for men transitioning from prison in the food justice movement. We believe that everybody deserves to be treated with respect and have equal access to food, jobs, and education.

Sunol Ag Park

Sunol, CA

<http://www.sagecenter.org/work/agricultural-revitalization/sunol-agpark/>

The Sunol Water Temple AgPark, created in 2006 through an historic partnership between San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) and SAGE, fosters sustainable farming and public education programs while protecting natural resources in the Alameda Creek watershed. The AgPark is a thriving urban-edge farm, home to four small-scale organic farming enterprises that produce delicious, fresh food for diverse Bay Area communities. Through the continuing support of the SFPUC, the AgPark also provides hands-on environmental education for schoolchildren, service learning and job training for youth, and volunteer and natural resource stewardship opportunities for community members.

Top Leaf Farms

<http://www.topleaffarms.com/index.html>

(831) 667-2376

farmtheroof@gmail.com

We offer consultation, design, installation, project management and operational services for highly productive Ecological agriculture systems for rural and urban - residential and commercial. We are currently

offering very innovative solutions in Urban Rooftop Agriculture.

Urban Tilth

Richmond, CA

<http://www.urbantilth.org/>

(510)232-0911

admin@urbantilth.org

Urban Tilth cultivates agriculture in west Contra Costa County to help our community build a more sustainable, healthy, and just food system. We hire and train residents to work with schools, community-based organizations, government agencies, businesses, and individuals to develop the capacity to produce 5% of our own food supply.

UC Gill Tract Community Farm

Albany, CA

<http://ucgilltractfarm.wixsite.com/gilltract>

We are striving to establish a community-managed food system centered around local, organic, agro-ecological farming practices. We want the UC Gill Tract Community Farm to serve as a model for what can be accomplished through collaborative and community-based research and extension within five to ten years: a unique, innovative partnership receiving attention and support from the public, academia, and policy makers.

Veggielution

San Jose, CA

<http://veggielution.org/>

(408) 753-6705

info@veggielution.org

Veggielution Community Farm was created in 2008 to help people make healthy food choices and provide opportunities for connecting with the natural world. We are fostering a

sustainable food system through our urban farm that engages the community by providing access to organic and local food, creates youth leadership opportunities, and develops creative solutions to environmental and social justice issues.

WOW Produce Farm / WOW Flower Farm

Oakland, CA
(510) 858-5068

<http://www.gametheoryacademy.org/wow-farm/>

The WOW Farm Youth Program uses urban farm spaces in West Oakland as production sites and classrooms for a business run by youth under the mentorship of experienced entrepreneurs, educators, and farmers. The business produces and delivers organically-produced root vegetables, leaf vegetables, herbs and flowers to local restaurants.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Bay Friendly Landscaping

<http://rescapeca.org/>
info@ReScapeCA.org

(510) 859-8026

ReScape California, also known as the Bay-Friendly Landscaping & Gardening Coalition, is an advocate and expert in the creation of sustainable landscapes for commercial, multi-family, and public spaces as well as single-family residences. ReScape California brings together a wide range of partners and acts as a credible, practical and flexible one-stop center for sustainable landscaping training, technical data, and resources.

East Bay Urban Farmer Field School

<http://www.eastbayurbanfarmers.com/>
(510) 637-9399

Hank Herrera

hank@c-prep.org

Over the past two years farmers from a dozen East Bay organizations have been addressing the complex and evolving needs of urban farming together through EBUFFS's innovative and cooperative training network. Monthly workshops at different farms address technical skills, community building, and leadership development. The EBUFFS pedagogy creates an environment that cultivates trust, confidence and community leadership with men and women of underserved communities. This helps to support the power of their respective community organizations.

Green Thumb Works

www.greenthumbworks.com

Sandra Neval-Lee

(510) 502-0992

Sandra@greenthumbworks.com

Sandra focuses on residential landscape horticulture in the San Francisco East Bay Area.

Alameda County Master Gardener Training Program

Call or Email Master Gardener Program Questions:

Hotline: (510) 670-5645 Answered on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10am-1pm, please leave a message.

Help Desk email: acmg@ucanr.edu

If you love learning and teaching about gardening, the Alameda County UC Master Gardener program offers the opportunity to use your knowledge and skills to serve the Alameda County community as a volunteer. Prospective Master Gardener Volunteers participate in a training program which covers all aspects of home gardening and urban agriculture. *Master Gardener Program*

also available in Contra Costa, Marin, San Mateo, San Francisco Counties)

MESA

Berkeley, CA

<https://www.mesaprogram.org>

(510) 654-8858

mesa@mesaprogram.org

MESA's Bay Area Farmer Training Program provides the education, training and tools for a new generation of farmers in California's Bay Area to create socially-just, ecologically sustainable and economically viable urban and peri-urban farm businesses. Between MESA's experience connecting educators, mentors and farmers around the world, and Planting Justice's years of innovative and successful re-entry programs, we bring a wealth of experience to the Bay Area Farmer Training Program! We are proud to be the first Beginning Farmers Training Program that's specifically working to address the needs of formerly incarcerated individuals and vulnerable new immigrants.

Sustainable Agriculture Education Association (SAEA)

<http://sustainableaged.org/>

SAEA promotes and supports the development, application, research, and exchange of best teaching and learning practices in sustainable agriculture education and curricula through communication, training, development, and collaborative activities for teachers and learners.

The Plant Exchange

<http://theplantexchange.com/>

info@theplantexchange.com

(510) 866-8482

The Plant Exchange is a twice-a-year free community event. The event encourages neighborliness, reuse, recycling, organic living, resource

sharing, and information exchange. For all gardeners, landscapers, urban farmers, and outdoor fans from all 9 Bay Area counties.

USEFUL TOOLS

Cropmobster

<https://sfbay.cropmobster.com/>

CropMobster is an online community-based exchange system for the trade and exchange items within the food and agricultural space. CropMobster SF Bay is focused on providing a locally based community for hunger relievers, tackle food waste and build our "farm-to-fork" economy in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Co-Garden

Sunil Nair

(415) 915-GROW

Rsunil.nair@gmail.com

The Cogarden Platform promotes social interactions with food growing communities that inspires a transparent, equitable, and cooperative food economy.

eOrganic Webinars – FREE

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/25242/webinars-by-eorganic>

Learn the latest in organic farming practices and research by attending or watching an eOrganic Webinar. Sign up for upcoming webinars to watch slides, listen to the presenter, and type in questions during the live events. To receive notices about upcoming webinars, and find out when we post the archived sessions, sign up for the eOrganic newsletter.