



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production



usda.gov/urban



Urban Agriculture

Urban as a description as opposed to a definition.



Bronx, NY. Population 1.5 million



Kennebec, SD. Population 300



Baton Rouge, LA. Population
221,000



What city/town and state/territory are you from?

OUAIP Staff Members



Jose Jimenez
Management and
Program Analyst



Sharonté Williams
Management and
Program Analyst



Sean Potts
Management and
Program Analyst

OUAIP Staff Members



Nina Bhattacharyya
Urban Agriculture Specialist



Leslie Glover II
Program Manager



Markus Holliday
FAC Coordinator

OUAIP Leadership



Brian Guse
Director

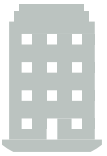


United States Department of Agriculture

The People's Department



100,000+ employees



29 agencies and offices



4,500 locations domestic and abroad



USDA's total outlays for 2023 are estimated at \$209.3 billion

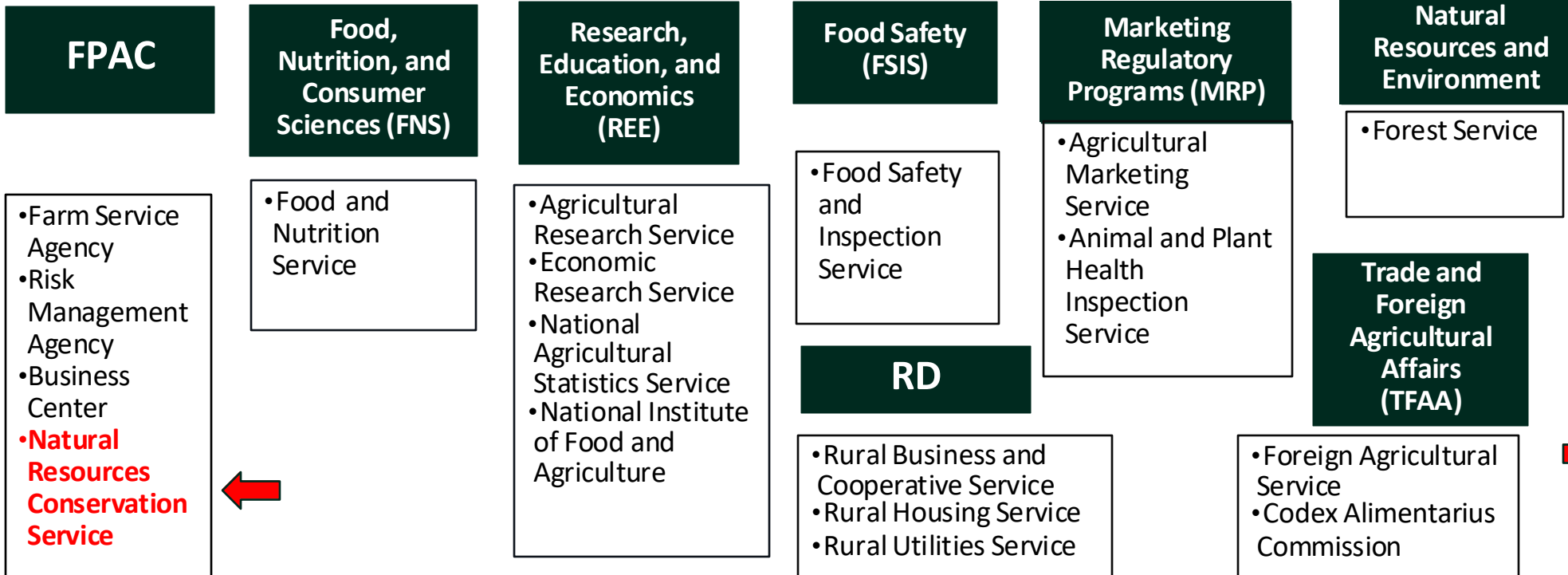


Where Does OUAIP Fit Within USDA?



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Tom Vilsack, *Secretary*

USDA Mission Areas & Agencies



USDA Offices

- Inspector General
- General Counsel
- Chief Financial Officer
- Chief Economist
- Budget and Program Analysis
- Communications
- Partnerships and Public Engagement
- Tribal Relations
- Hearing and Appeals
- Chief Information Officer
- **Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production**

How is OUAIP Structured? OUAIP relationship with NRCS

Office of the Chief

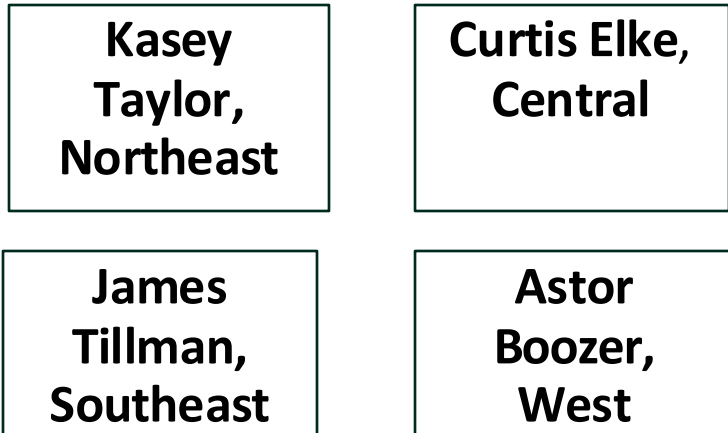


Terry Cosby
Chief, NRCS

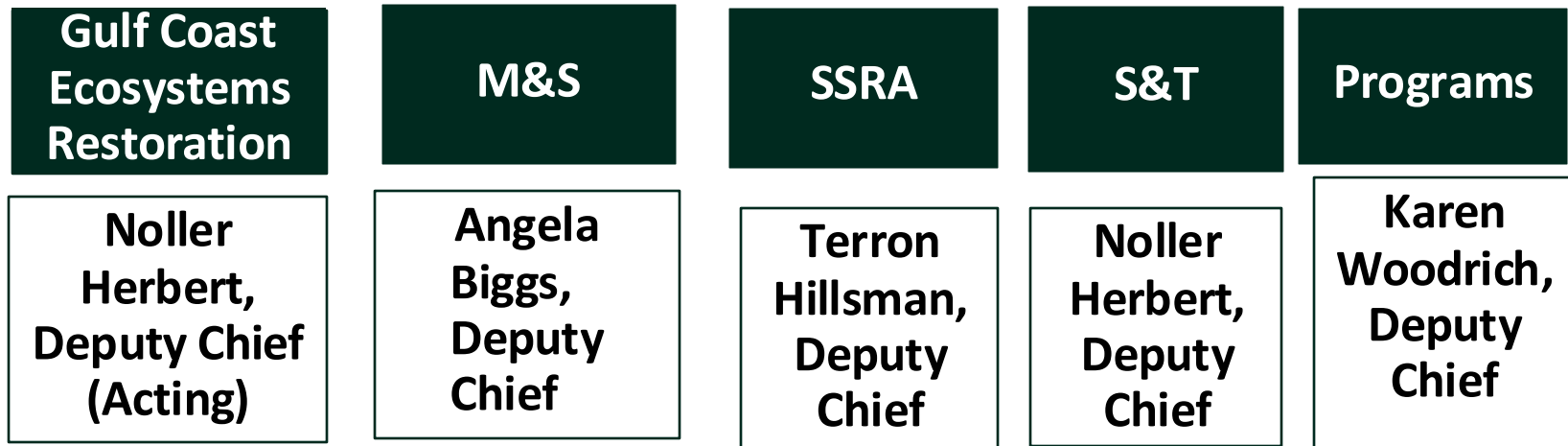


Louis Aspey
Associate Chief

NRCS Regional Conservationists



NRCS Deputy Areas





Community Gardens and Farms



Rooftop farms, vertical production, green walls



Hydroponic, aeroponic, and aquaponics



Indoor farms, greenhouses



Food waste reduction



Composting

OUAIP Mission

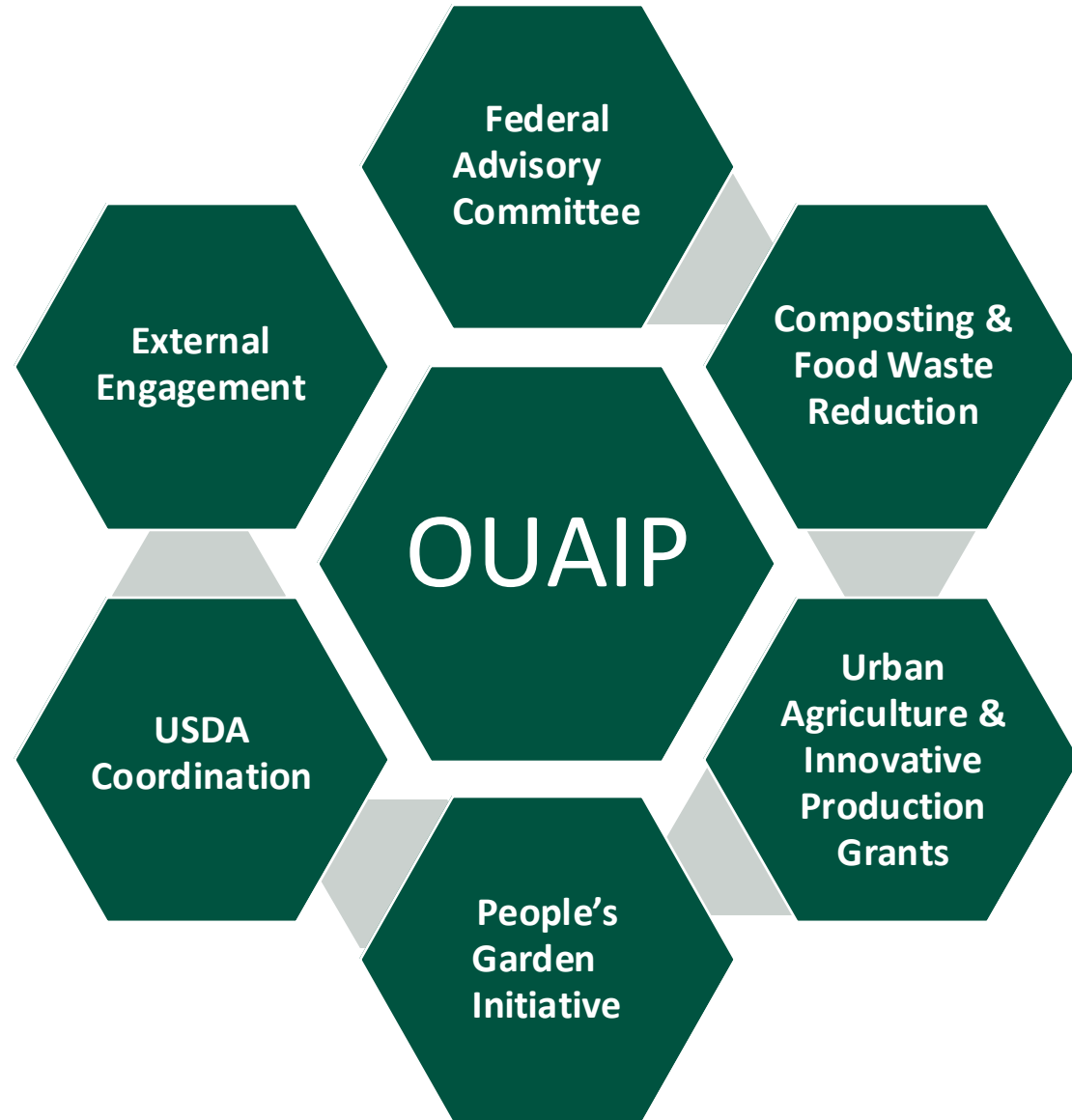


usda.gov/urban



What type of organization are you affiliated with?

OUAIP Responsibilities





United States Department of Agriculture

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants



Provide access to food in areas where it is limited or unavailable.



Proposals must be designed to support multiple farmers or gardeners



No partner match required.



UAIP Across the Country





How does your community address composting and food waste reduction?

Composting and Food Waste Reduction Agreements



CFWR provides funding to develop and test strategies for food waste reduction and composting



Projects can be in all community types including rural, urban and suburban.



25% Match Required (can be in-kind)



Cross-cutting partnerships

Open until
Sept. 4, 2024



CFWR Across the Country





Are you familiar with
the People's Garden
Initiative?

People's Garden

- Connect gardens from across the country.
- Provide networking opportunities and resources.
- Highlight inspiring stories and work of community gardens.



People's Garden Criteria



Join



Grow

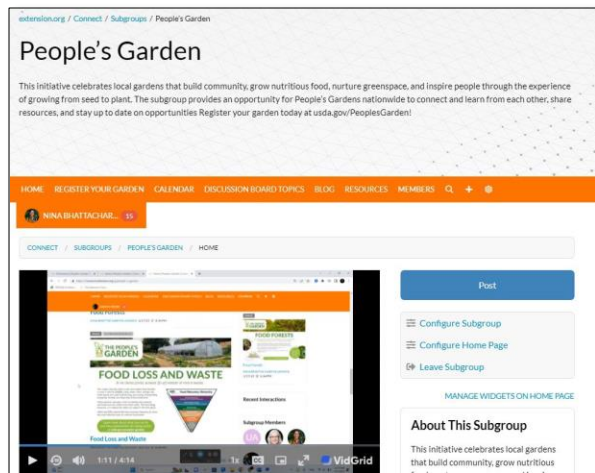


Teach



Join today at usda.gov/peoples-garden/registration-form





Benefits to Joining the Network

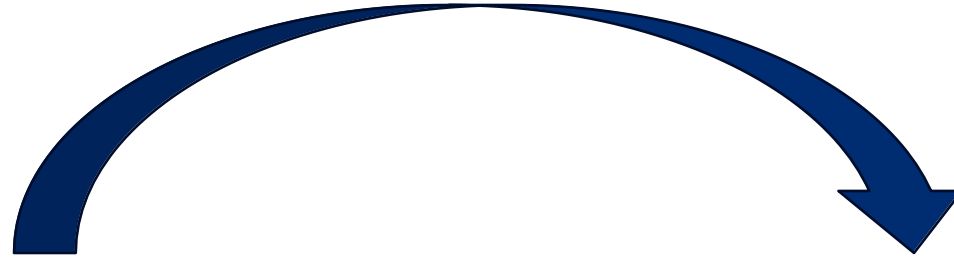
- Learn about USDA resources to support garden
- Network with gardens from across the country
- Include garden on the interactive map at usda.gov/peoples-garden
- Receive a People's Garden sign to display in garden

CONNECT
EXTENSION



Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants

People's Garden Initiative



Composting and Food Waste Reduction Agreements

Navigating Local Policies



2018 Farm Bill Responsibility

“The Director shall be responsible for engaging in activities to carry out the [OUAIP] mission...including by *identifying common State and municipal best practices for navigating local policies.*”



Project Overview

- OUAIP is partnering with Vermont Law and Graduate School Center for Agriculture and Food Systems (CAFS).
- Two main components of CAFS project:
 - Advisory group to inform development of policy resources.
 - Catalog urban agriculture and innovative production policies and best practices for navigating local policies.
- Audiences include:
 - Policymakers
 - Producers
 - Service Providers/Community-Based Organizations
 - USDA staff



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production



**CENTER FOR
AGRICULTURE &
FOOD SYSTEMS**

Project Deliverables

- City policy database
- Comparative analysis of policies across cities
- UAIP policy 101
- Detailed briefs:
 - Policy briefs
 - City profiles
- Evaluation



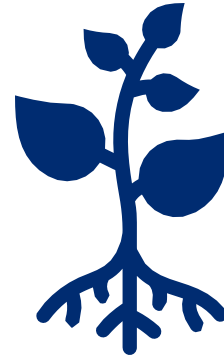
Vermont Law and Graduate School Center for Agriculture and Food Systems

Contacts:

- Lihlani Nelson
 - Deputy Director and Senior Researcher
 - lnelson@vermontlaw.edu
- Liz Turner
 - Food and Agriculture Fello
 - LTurner@vermontlaw.edu



Food System Policy Partners

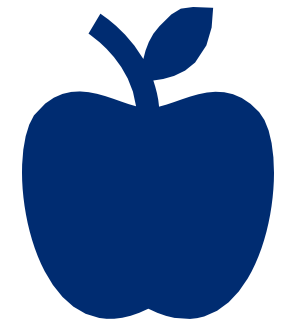


USDA Agencies

- National Agricultural Library
- Agricultural Marketing Service
- Food and Nutrition Service
- Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

Food System Researchers

- Vermont Law and Graduate School
- National Agricultural Law Center
- Cornell Small Farms
- Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic



And many more!

Agricultural Law Information Partnership



tinyurl.com/2p9p5fvr

Funded by USDA National Agricultural Library



The Promise of Urban Agriculture



tinyurl.com/54zkfukx

Funded by USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Advisory Committee

Overview: Twelve committee members advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the development of policies and outreach relating to urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production practices.

Duties:

- Develop recommendations on policies, initiatives, and outreach
- Evaluate and review ongoing research and extension activities
- Identify new and existing barriers



usda.gov/partnerships/federal-advisory-committee-urban-ag





Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production

[Background](#) | [Members](#) | [Meetings](#) | [Resources](#) | [Contact](#)

Background

About the Committee

In January 2022, the Secretary of Agriculture selected the original 12 members of the advisory committee, from over 300 applications of highly qualified individuals. These members will serve one to three year terms. The advisory committee held its inaugural meeting in March 2022 including introductions from the Secretary of Agriculture, Thomas J. Vilsack, Senator Debbie Stabenow (MI), Chief of NRCS, and additional members of USDA leadership.

Resources

▼ [USDA News and Reports](#)

▼ [Public Resources](#)

▼ [Advisory Committee Reports](#)

Meetings

The Committee will meet, online or in-person, at least three times a year. Meetings are open to the public with advance registration.

▼ [2024 Meetings](#)

▼ [2023 Meetings](#)

▼ [2022 Meetings](#)

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Advisory Committee Members



Allison Paap,
Financial Sector



Ted Fang,
Urban Producer



Angie Mason,
Related Experience



Carl P. Wallace,
Non-Profit Sector



Jerry Ann Hebron,
Urban Producer



John Erwin,
Higher Education



Kate Greenberg,
Business/Economic
Development



Jeff Young,
Higher Education



Kaben Smallwood,
Innovative Producer



Qiana Mickie,
Related Experience



Viraj Puri,
Innovative Producer



Zachari Curtis,
Supply Chain



United States Department of Agriculture



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Federal Advisory Committee
for Urban Agriculture and
Innovative Production



Ways to Get Involved



Attend Public Meetings



Sign-up for Email Updates



Email Public Comments to
UrbanAgricultureFederalAdvisory
Committee@usda.gov



Learn More at
usda.gov/urban

It's Simple, Not Easy



The Most Important Thing is What's Your Vision



Stakeholder Relations

- Engaging in stakeholder relations and developing external partnerships
- Identifying common State and municipal best practices for navigating local policies
- Collaborating with other Federal agencies



USDA Coordination

- Funding opportunities
- Cross marketing of USDA Programs
- Program policy recommendations
- USDA-wide training





United States Department of Agriculture

A photograph of a community garden with various plants, including sunflowers and leafy greens, in front of a wooden fence. A sign in the background says "COMPOST".

USDA Technical and Financial Assistance

Technical or Financial Assistance?

- **Technical assistance**

- Written Information
 - Requests for information
 - Research Trials
 - Publications
- Person to Person
 - Listening Sessions
 - Lectures
- Web Based
 - Webinars
 - Training
 - Tools

- **Financial Assistance**

- Grants (sometimes called grant agreements)
- Agreements (Cooperative or Contribution)
- Loans & Loan guarantees
- Insurance
- Disaster Relief

What is Technical Assistance

**Usually, free service(s)
provided to clients to
improve their operations**

- **Examples**

- Written Information
 - Requests for information
 - Research Trials
 - Publications
- Person to Person
 - Listening Sessions
 - Lectures
- Web Based
 - Webinars
 - Training
 - Tools

Financial Assistance Programs can be:

- Direct assistance to producers
- Pass through other entities which require collaborations, agreements, and/or partnerships
 - Block Grants to States



United States Department of Agriculture



How do you obtain information about USDA programs?



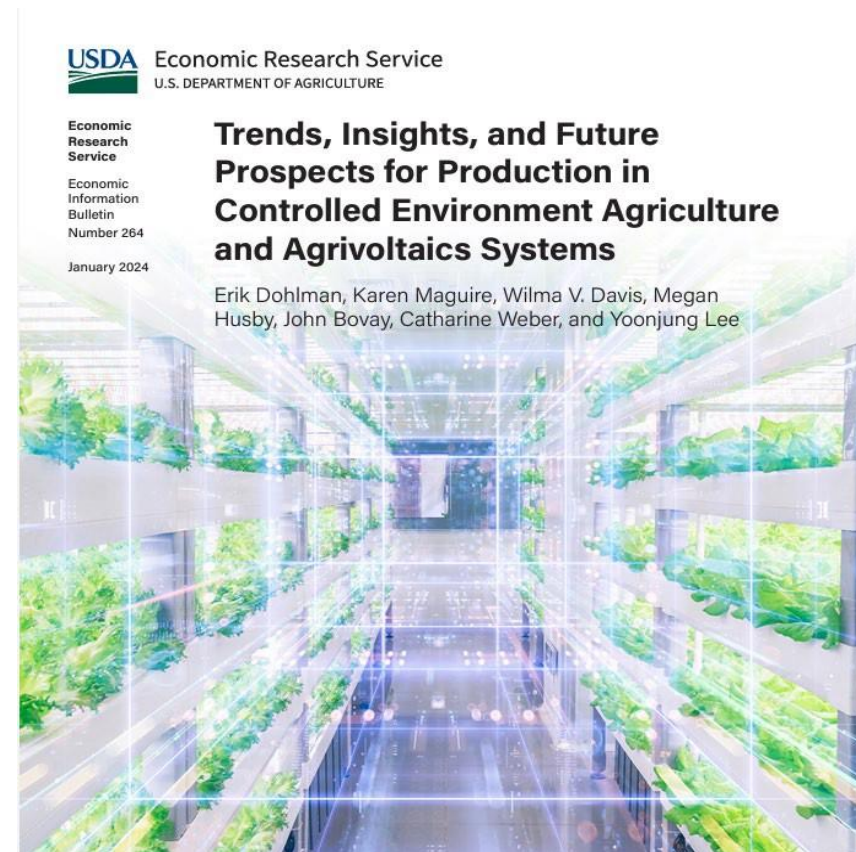
United States Department of Agriculture

A photograph of a community garden with various plants, including sunflowers and leafy greens, in front of a wooden fence. A sign that says "COMPOST" is visible in the background.

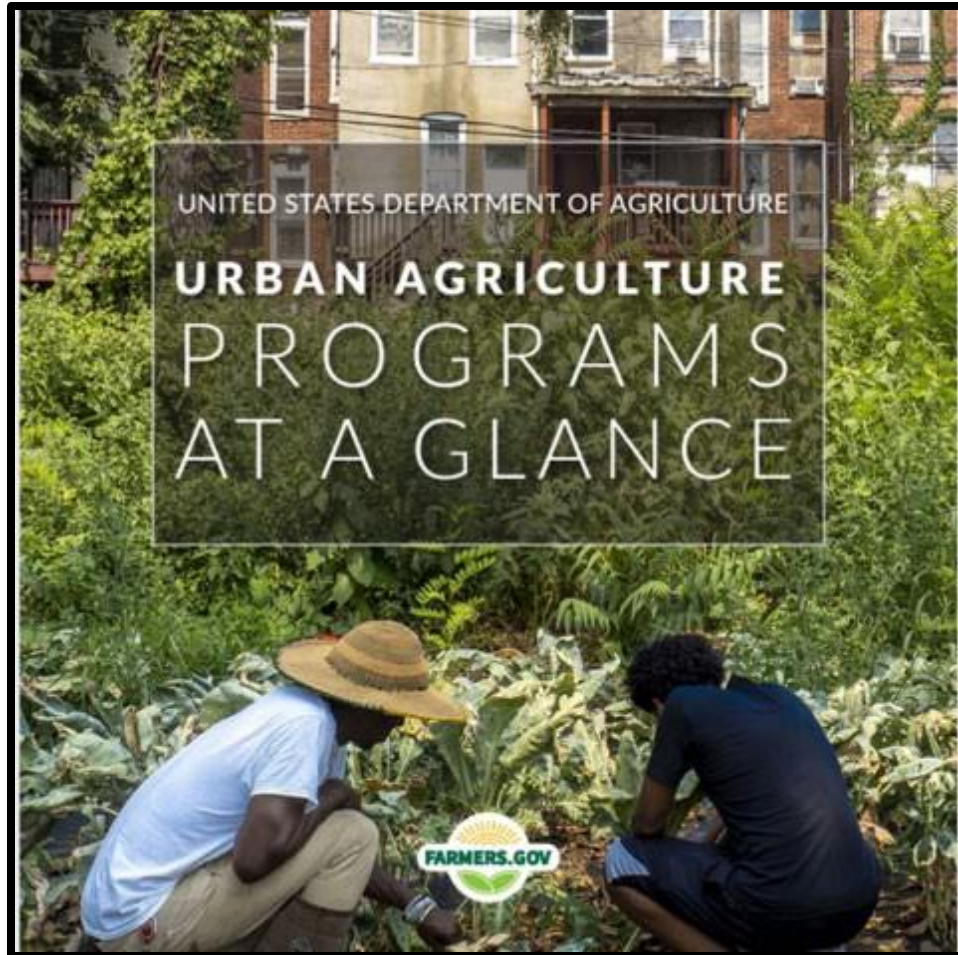
USDA Technical Assistance

Research Support and Reports

- [Trends, Insights, and Future Prospects for Production in CEA and Agrivoltaics Systems](#)
- [Best Practices Guide Water Circularity for CEA Operations](#)
- [Research and Development Potentials in Indoor Agriculture and Sustainable Urban Ecosystems Workshop Report](#)



Urban Agriculture at a Glance



To Help People, We Must Reach People

- Success hinges on acceptance and engagement from local communities



United States Department of Agriculture

Connecting Urban Producers with Food Banks and Markets

OUAIP is working with Illinois Farm Bureau and Market Maker on a Pilot Project that will facilitate connections between networks of community gardens, local food banks, and other market opportunities



WANT ACCESS TO NEW NEW MARKETS?

JOIN OUR PILOT PROJECT

The Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production is partnering with Market Maker as part of the USDA's effort to transform food systems to include more resilience and equity. Market Maker will help OUAIP to coordinate networks of community gardens and facilitate connections to local food banks and pantries.



What's In It For Me?

It is **FREE** to Join

Wholesale Opportunities Available

Connect directly with Non-Profits, Growers, Buyers, Processor, and More!

Find Products and Services Across the Food System

Build a Stronger Business Value Chain!

Match donations to specific inventory surplus

MARKET MAKER WEBSITE



Assistance Available

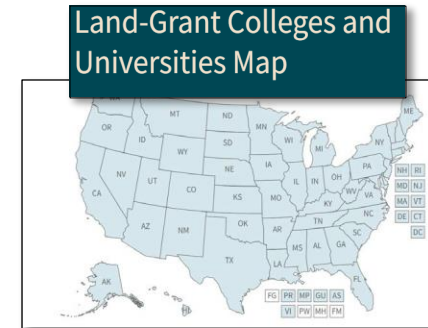
USDA Service Centers Locator

<https://tinyurl.com/vr5y4e6y>



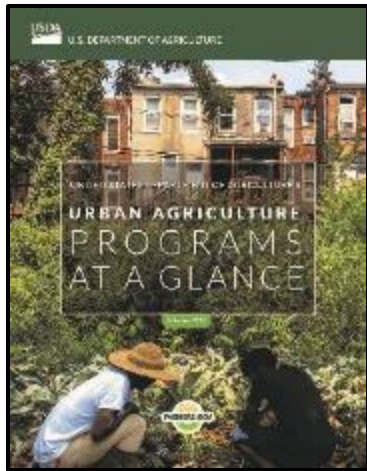
College Partners Directory

<https://tinyurl.com/2bmnnb82>



Resources from OUAIP

Urban Agriculture at a Glance



usda.gov/urban



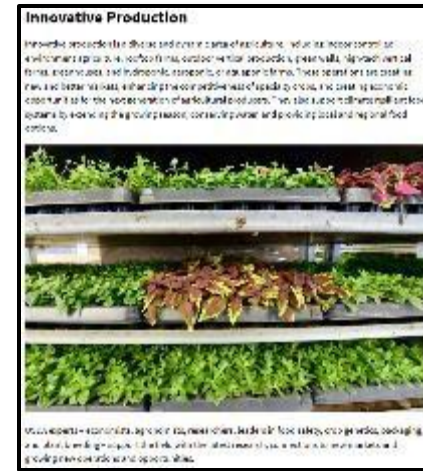
Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Newsletter



farmers.gov/urban



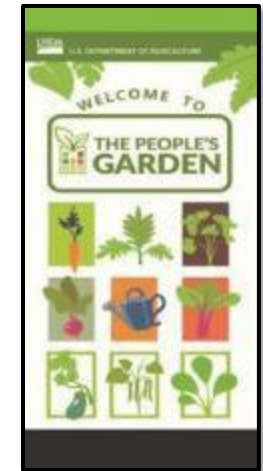
Innovative Production Webpage



usda.gov/topics/urban/innovative-production



People's Garden brochure



usda.gov/peoples-garden





Other Newsletters

July 2024
Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

Right-click or tap and hold here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.

News

USDA is Increasing Access to Healthy Food in Underserved Areas

As part of the National Rural Grocer's Summit this week in Montgomery, Alabama, Secretary Vilsack **announced** that USDA and Reinvestment Fund are launching a new program under the **Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI)** to increase access to healthy foods in communities underserved by grocery stores.

Agricultural Marketing Service

Local and Regional Food Systems News Brief

September 8, 2023

Hello Local + Regional Food Working Group,
Welcome to the LRFS Working Group for those of you who are new! I hope everyone enjoyed the Labor Day weekend. This month's news brief contains upcoming LRFS working group meetings and a new Agency Feature.

Happy Friday!
Britni Echols

Local and Regional Food Systems (LRFS) Working Group Meetings

LRFS Working Group Meetings
Date: September 12, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. ET
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

The Local and Regional Food Systems (LRFS) Working Group is a voluntary committee, open to employees from all USDA mission areas, that supports interagency collaboration around LRFS. Our mission is to

Registered Apprenticeship:
Harvesting Our Future
 Agriculture Industry CoP Newsletter

July 2024 Newsletter



USDA Food and Nutrition Service
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

USDA Foods
 from Farm to Plate
 Household Highlights, October 2023

News & Notes

Procurement and Storage Strategies for Kosher Observant TEFAP Participants Webinar - Recording Available
On August 10th, FNS hosted a webinar to provide program stakeholders with additional information on supporting kosher observant communities through TEFAP. The webinar featured multiple guest speakers who presented valuable information to help program operators better serve kosher observant communities. Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) program staff provided an overview of the recent Request for Information (RFI) on the availability of kosher and halal certified foods. The results from this RFI will help to identify additional vendors and/or kosher certified foods that can be distributed through TEFAP. The webinar also featured three speakers from [Agudath Israel of America](#) and the [Chicago Rabbinical Council](#), who spoke about kosher dietary laws and best practices for dining and distribution.

FEED THE FUTURE
 The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

NEWSLETTER

OCT 2023

Feed the Future Innovation Labs in the Spotlight
 Investments in research today pay dividends tomorrow. That's the driving notion behind Feed the Future Innovation Labs, which connect researchers from top U.S.

Development Finance Review WEEKLY
 This Week's Highlights from the Development Finance Industry

Features

Invest in Yourself at 2024 CDFA Summer School!
 CDFA Summer School is a 2-week long virtual series of courses designed to help you accelerate your development finance education, with a curation of seven different training courses to choose from. Don't miss the opportunity to learn from our expert practitioners and experience CDFA's most interactive educational event of the year! Register today!

\$517M Behavioral Health Campus in Unincorporated Riverside County, CA
 Mead Valley Wellness Village, a \$517 million financing in unincorporated Riverside County, broke ground on June 12 and will provide critical healthcare services to the surrounding community. The California Enterprise Development Authority issued these bonds for the benefit of Riverside County. The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to construct a 450,000 sq. ft. behavioral health campus with five main buildings: a Community Wellness and Education Center, a Children's and Youth Services building, Urgent Care Services, Supportive Transitional Housing, and Extended Residential Care.

The Dirt

News and Notes from the Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program

Food Hubs and Farm to School: Expanding Local Food Access and Building Resilient Food Systems



There are many procurement avenues available when sourcing local food, one that's on the rise is purchasing from food hubs. What is a food hub? The USDA defines it as "a centrally located facility with a business management structure facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and/or marketing of locally/regionally produced food products." A food hub can help SFAs with local purchasing through aggregation, which is working with multiple producers to combine and sell their harvests of one type of product. This can help SFAs make large purchases that individual local producers might not be able to fulfill on their own. With food hubs,



1. **Crisis: Growing Problems** How are crop losses, rising and falling prices, and other market challenges impacting the industry?
2. **Animals, Fields to Factory** How does our national food system work?
3. **Seafood: Wild and Farmed** What does our national food system look like?
4. **The Heats That Feed Us** How do we ensure our food system is resilient to climate change?
5. **Our Changing Climate** How is agriculture connected to climate change?
6. **Turning Toward Sustainability** How are we better people making their farms more sustainable?
7. **Our Food's Journey** Why is food transported over long distances?
8. **Keeping Our Food Safe** Where is our food supply at risk of contamination?
9. **Processing: Farm to Factory** Why and how are foods processed?
10. **Marketing Food Labels** How can we improve the information on food packaging?
11. **Marketing Under the Influence** How do food companies market their products?
12. **Why We Eat What We Eat** What factors influence our food choices?
13. **Our Wasted Food** How much food do we waste and why does it matter?
14. **The Hunger Gap** How do we better address food insecurity among people?
15. **Food Policy in Action** What is the role of government in the food system?

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE SPECIALTY CROPS STANDARD
 News and Resources from the AMS Specialty Crops Program

September 2023

A Message to Our Industry Partners

From the Specialty Crops Program (SCP)

Deputy Administrator,
Christopher Purdy



It has been a few months since we sent you a note and we would like to share some helpful information via our revised stakeholder newsletter, *The Specialty Crops Standard*. We hope you find it to be useful and informative!

SCP has a wealth of knowledge about our programs and services that we would like to share with you. This newsletter will make it easier to learn about the services we offer and make it easier to

Quick Links to Service Resources

- U.S. Grade Standards, Instructions and Visual Aids:
- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Specialty Products
- Developing or Revising Standards Fact Sheet
- Specialty Crops Inspection
- Inspection Office Directory



United States Department of Agriculture



Have you applied for
USDA assistance?



United States Department of Agriculture

A photograph of a community garden with various plants, including sunflowers and leafy greens, in front of a wooden fence. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image.

USDA Financial Assistance

Whole of Government Approach



- Environmental Protection Agency
- Housing and Urban Development
- US Botanical Garden
- Department of Labor
- Department of Energy
- Smithsonian Museum
- Veterans Affairs



OMB - Federal Program Inventory



Federal Program Inventory

Program search | Explore programs by category | About the FPI

Program search

Filters

Categories +

Agencies -

- Agency for International Development
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Education
- Department of Energy
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Housing and Urban

371

programs

\$298.97B

in FY 2022 obligations

Programs

Type a keyword...

Name	Agency	Obligations (FY 2022)
10.551 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Department of Agriculture	\$121.07B
10.410 - Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans and Loan Guarantees	Department of Agriculture	\$31.25B
10.555 - National School Lunch Program	Department of Agriculture	\$21.64B
10.542 - Pandemic EBT Food Benefits	Department of Agriculture	\$19.00B
10.450 - Crop Insurance	Department of Agriculture	\$18.58B



Program Statistics

Advanced Search

Filter by: Prime Awards and Transactions



Filters

Learn which data elements are associated with certain search filters

Submit

Reset filters

Keyword

Search by Keyword

Time Period

Fiscal Year Date Range

- All Fiscal Years
- FY 2024 FY 2015
- FY 2023 FY 2014
- FY 2022 FY 2013
- FY 2021 FY 2012
- FY 2020 FY 2011
- FY 2019 FY 2010
- FY 2018 FY 2009

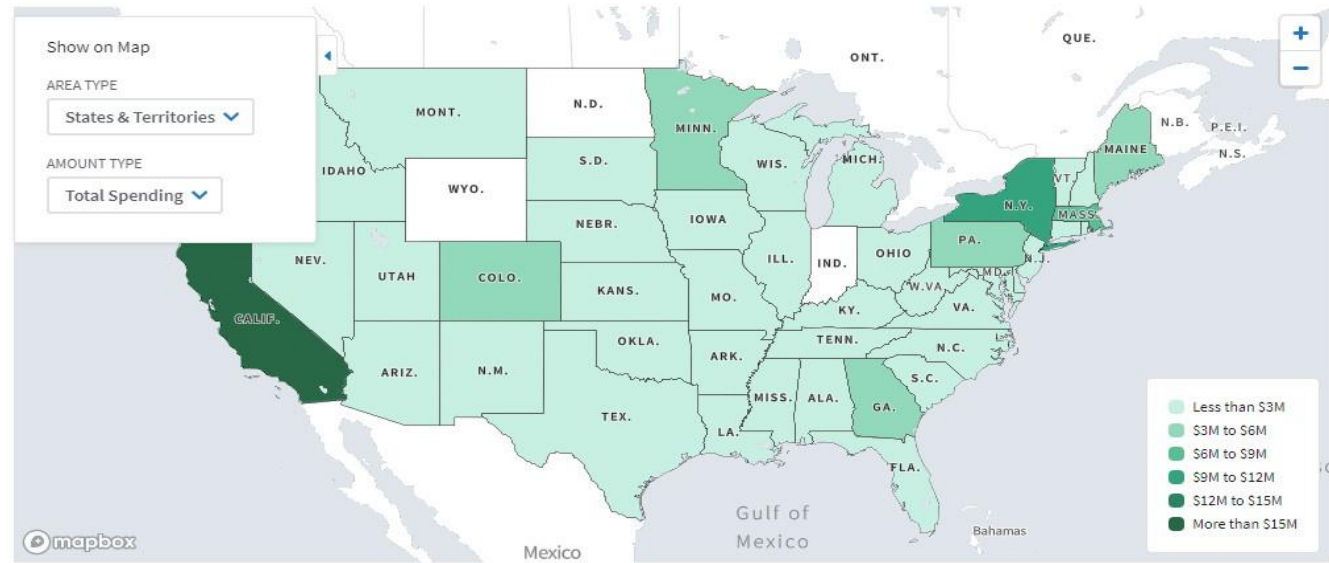
1 Active Filter:

ASSISTANCE LISTING

10.225 | Community Food Projects

Learn how active filters work

Results by Geography Place of Performance



Feedback

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Conservation Technical Assistance



Veterans Produce, Ft. Worth, TX

Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Peak of Abundance, Spokane, WA

Conservation Stewardship Program



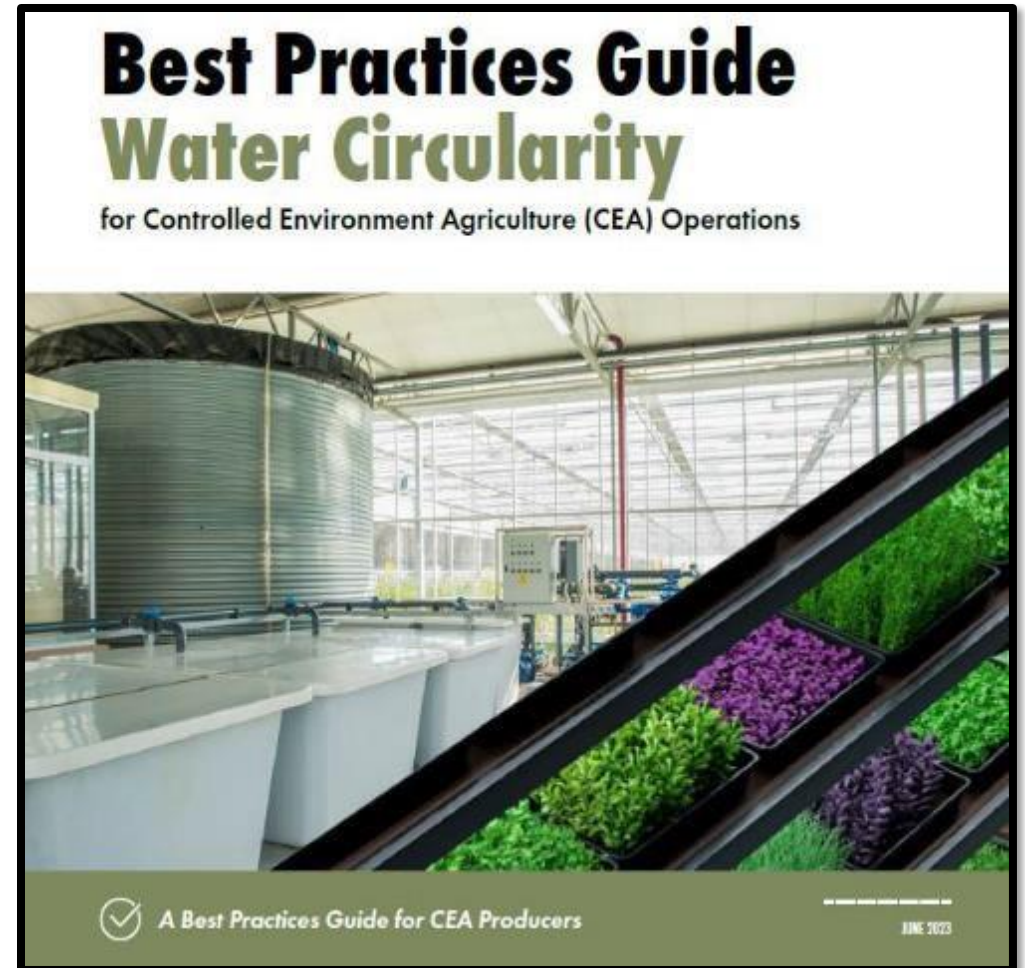
Tyonek Community Garden, Tyonek, AK

“This has been a real game changer for me.” Brandon Gerard, Peak Abundance

Natural Resources Conservation Service cont.

Conservation Innovation Grants

- Example: Resource Innovation Institute, Best Practice Guide Water Circularity



Farm Service Agency

Farm Operating Loans	Farm Ownership Loans
Microloans	Farm Storage Facility Loan Program
Youth Loans	Conservation Reserve Program
Organic Certification Cost Share Program	Beginning Farmer and Rancher Program



Farm Loan Discovery Tool

farmers.gov/loans/farm-loan-discovery-tool

Dearing Farms, IL



Wild Wood Farms, IA



Block Island Shellfish Farm, RI



"Farmer Ken", Southern CA



Agricultural Research Service

- Urban and Controlled Environment Agriculture Technologies (ARS)
- Collaborative Research Projects
- Over 90 Field Locations nationwide



Find an ARS Location
ars.usda.gov/people-locations/find-a-location/

*Experimental Prototype
 Community of
 Tomorrow at EPCOT*

ARS and AmplifiedAg

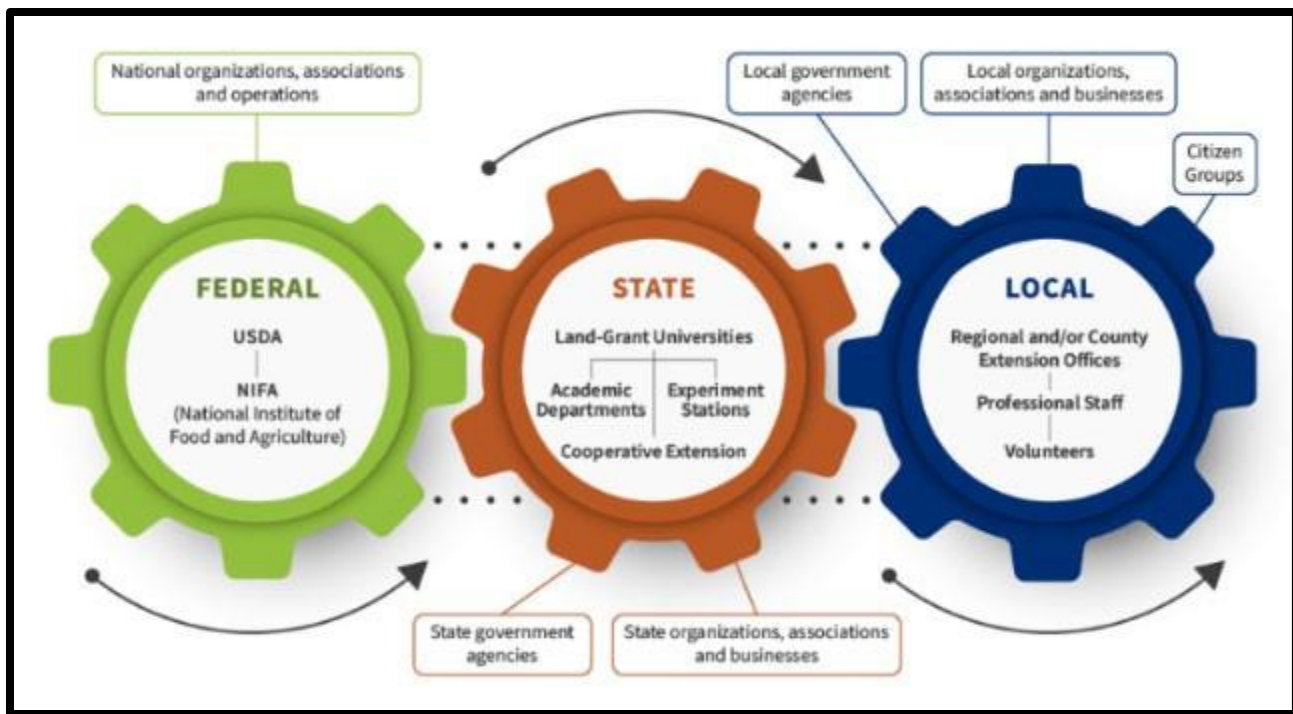


"Keepsake" Strawberry



National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Cooperative Extension System



National Urban
Extension Leaders

nuel.extension.org

National Institute of Food and Agriculture cont.

- Urban, Indoor, and Emerging Agriculture
- Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program
- Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program
- Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program
- Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans (AgVets)



Forest Service

Urban Field Stations



fs.usda.gov/research/urban-fieldstations/locations



Vibrant Cities Lab



vibrantcitieslab.com



Urban & Community Forestry Program



fs.usda.gov/managing-land/urban-forests/ucf



i-Tree



itreetools.org



Agricultural Marketing Service

Local Agricultural Marketing Program

- Farmers Market Promotion Program
- Local Food Promotion Program
- Regional Food System Partnerships



ams.usda.gov/services/grants/lamp





United States Department of Agriculture

Risk Management Agency

Whole Farm Revenue Protection

Controlled Environment Program

Micro Farm Policy Program

Risk Management Education Partnership Program

RMA Informational Tools

[www.rma.usda.gov/en/
Information-Tools](http://www.rma.usda.gov/en/Information-Tools)



RMA-Funded Podcasts

Search for USDA, Risk Management Agency at farmcommons.org/library/resources/podcasts



Food Nutrition Service

- Farm to School Program
- The WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program
- Strategic Partnerships – Accept SNAP Payment Online



*Lincoln County School District
Central Oregon Coast*



*River Queen Dreams
New Orleans, Louisiana*





United States Department of Agriculture

Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement

Underserved and Veteran Farmers, Ranchers, and Foresters Program (the 2501 Program)

Adelante Center for Entrepreneurship



Common Good City Farm



Rural Development

- Value-Added Producer Grants
- Healthy Food Financing Initiative
- Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans & Grants



*Mycopolitan
Philadelphia, PA*



*City Roots Farm
Columbia, SC*



What would you like to hear more about?



United States Department of Agriculture

Thank you!

usda.gov/urban



farmers.gov/urban



Sign-up for our
newsletter!



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.