



NUag News Blast

Winter Edition



The NUag team is back with our Winter newsletter! Get the most updated information about our project as we work with producers, cooperators, and the USDA to advance urban agriculture.

Mini Grant Updates: Success Stories from Cooperators



Mini-Grant Recipients 2024-2025

At Virginia Tech's Center for Food Systems and Community Transformation, the “Advancing Urban Agriculture and Sustainable Food Systems in Virginia” project announced the following initiatives as the 2024-2025 mini-grant recipients. The goal of mini grant funding is to build the capacity of existing urban agriculture work in Virginia.

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Here](#)



2024 Microgrant Awardees

At Ecotrust, the Resilient Food Futures Microgrants are an offering of the larger Resilient Food Futures project. Their work spans across the Portland Metro Region and Oregon to strengthen the long-term viability, resilience, and leadership of underserved producers. These

microgrants are intended to increase the capacity of urban farmers and other producers for growing food, medicines, fibers, or commodities or for expanding their growing operations and to increase their capacity.

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2025 Farmer Innovation Program Micro-Grant Beneficiaries



Farm to Table New Mexico's Farmer Innovation Program (NMFIP) announced 13 projects in nine counties throughout New Mexico that will receive funds in the 2025 grant cycle of the Urban Agriculture Initiative's Micro-Grants. These grants have been awarded to urban farmers, ranchers, and food enterprises across New Mexico in support of projects which increase or improve healthy food access in urban and tribal communities and small towns.

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California's Farmers Receive Funds from First Statewide Urban Agriculture Program



on National Agriculture Day, Community Alliance with Family Farmers announced the awardees of California's first-ever urban agriculture program housed at the California Department of Food & Agriculture. The grants will support the growth and sustainability of urban agriculture in cities throughout California, investing in projects that need financial support for implementation.

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Here](#)



At Renewing the Countryside, the organization has awarded mini grants recognizing, supporting, and connecting existing urban agriculture initiatives and networks to help build a more robust Twin Cities food system where urban farmers/gardeners can flourish and access the resources needed to reach their goals.

[Read More Here](#)



Cooperator Visit Highlight: Renewing the Countryside



The National NUag team traveled to the Twin Cities in September to understand the urban agriculture landscape in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. Renewing the Countryside and their awesome partners gave us a small tour to see the different types of urban agriculture thriving in the area.

Urban Farm & Garden Alliance Victoria Rondo Community Garden

Urban Farm & Garden Alliance (UFGA) is a community organization that manages several garden sites in the Rondo and Frogtown neighborhoods of St. Paul. UFGA began in 2014 with a vision to cultivate food, peace, justice, and unity. Victoria Rondo Community Garden is centrally located in the heart of the Old Historic Rondo community and across from a funeral home. The garden provides space to mourn while honoring community heroes such as Melvin Giles who was an avid community gardener, nurturer, and healer.



[Read More Here](#)

California Street Farm



California Street Farm was originally founded in 2012 and is an urban farm located in Northeast Minneapolis producing fresh, local vegetables for the neighborhood. Elyssa currently farms California Street Farm and is thrilled to create a space of belonging and learning, while growing nutritious, accessible food. Respecting the soil is also important to the operation. They follow organic growing practices while all of the farming is done by hand to support pollinators and minimize soil disturbance avoiding chemical pesticides or chemical fertilizers of any kind. California Street Farm is a for profit operation which runs a CSA, market, farmstand, and hosts community dinners and events.

[Read More Here](#)

Frogtown Farm

Frogtown Farm was founded in 2013 as a community led initiative stewarding 13 acres in the Frogtown Neighborhood. The farm is now a non-profit organization in partnership with the city and several other partners, and was created as a greenspace, recreation area, and demonstration farm. The NUag team visited while Frogtown hosted a "Soil Health and Water Management for Healthy Plants" workshop. The team got to experience an educational workshop on soil assessments and irrigation systems while touring the farm space and learning about the area.



[Read More Here](#)

Twin Cities Urban Ag Resources

[Twin Cities Community Agricultural Land Trust](#)

[Supporting Urban Food Cultivation - Policy Report](#)

[Glossary of Urban Food Cultivation- Illustrated Version](#)

[The Minneapolis Food Vision](#)

[Minneapolis Food Action Plan](#)

Website Updates: NUag Impact Snapshots

The NUag Project team is rolling out our version of impact statements based on interviews conducted at the National Urban Agriculture Conference, held in Detroit August 4-6, 2024.

Our second snapshot amplifies perspectives on *Financial Support & Resource Allocation*, focusing on relevance, response, and results.

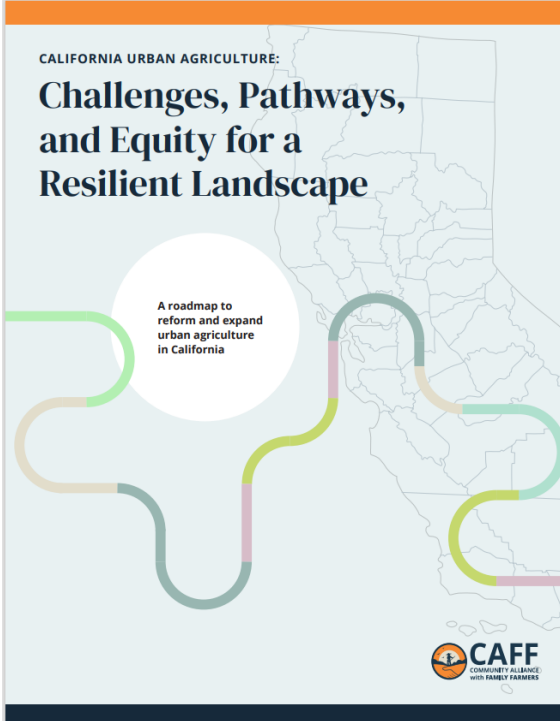
Financial Support & Resource Allocation PDF



Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in these videos are those of the speaker and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Virginia State University and the NUag project, its partners, or any federal agency.

Relevant Reports

**CALIFORNIA URBAN
AGRICULTURE: Challenges,**



Pathways, and Equity for a Resilient Landscape

A roadmap to Inform and Expand Urban Agriculture In California

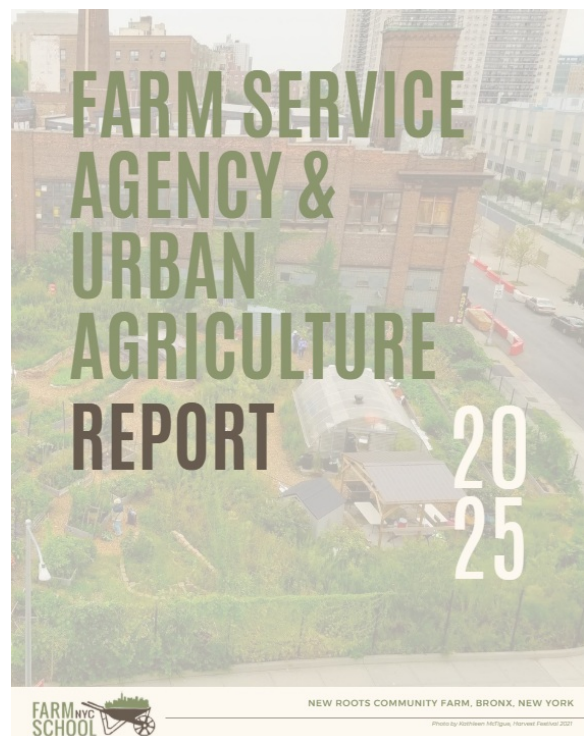
This report by Community Alliance with Family Farmers draws from the perspectives of over 200 of California's urban growers, educators, and community leaders. This comprehensive roadmap sheds light on the pressing and unique challenges and opportunities facing urban farmers and aims to guide policy decisions to build capacity and bolster support for urban agriculture across the state.

[View the Report](#)

Farm School NYC - Listening Project Report: Farm service Agency & Urban Agriculture Report

This report summarizes the USDA FSA national urban agriculture initiative while giving thorough insight on how the initiative is connecting with community members in the New York City area. This reports reviews project background, stakeholders, challenges, and informed FSA recommendations.

[View the Report](#)



Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production A Guide to Local Policy

The Center for Agriculture and Food Systems (CAFS) at Vermont Law and Graduate School has released "Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production:



Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production
A Guide to Local Policy



A Guide to Local Policy,” a new resource to help city policymakers, farmers, food producers, and community organizations, navigate the local policies that shape food production in U.S. cities.

[View the Report](#)

 Center for Agriculture
& Food Systems
VERMONT LAW & GRADUATE SCHOOL

September 2025

Urban Insights

[Winterize your pollinator garden | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#)

[Delay Garden Cleanup to Benefit Overwintering Insects](#)

[Growing All Seasons: High Tunnels | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

[Build Tool-Free DIY Hoop House to Extend the Growing Season](#)

[Low Tunnels for Beginners | Extension | West Virginia University](#)

[Overwintering honeybees: a guide to the fundamentals - Honey Bee Suite](#)

[Ideal Produce Wash Station for Small-scale Farmers: The Importance, Principles, Workflow Design, Water Quality, Washing, and Cooling Methods](#)

[Urban Tree Care Strategies | Arborist Now - Arborist Now](#)

[Food safety considerations for agriculture within urban spaces](#)



Stay Informed

Sign up at the bottom of the USDA Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production page for updates

[OUAIP Homepage](#)

Stay up to date on current FSA news and programs

[FSA News](#)

Keep in contact with your local Urban Agriculture Service Center, FSA office and NCRS office

[Local service Center Locator](#)



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