

What are the Benefits of Urban Agriculture?

HEALTH

- Improved accessibility to healthy foods
- Improved nutrition & dietary intake
- Healing & therapeutic purposes
- Increase physical activity & recreation

SOCIAL

- Empower community members
- Support youth development & education
- Improve food security
- Provide safe spaces
- Integrate aging population
- Build friendships, reliance & accountability in neighborhoods

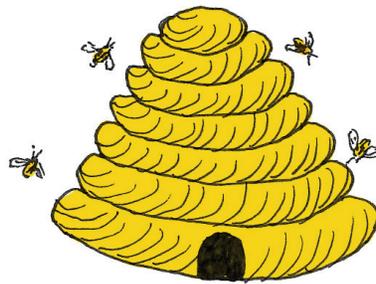
ECONOMIC

- Stimulate local economy - grow local, buy local, eat local
- Provide job training
- Grow local jobs
- Provide affordable food

ECOLOGICAL

- Increase ecological awareness
- Enable land stewardship
- Conserve natural resources
- Manage stormwater
- Improve soils
- Enhance habitats and biodiversity

Another "Green El Monte" (GEM) project!



“ If kids grow kale, kids eat kale. If they grow tomatoes, they eat tomatoes. But when none of this is presented to them, if they're not shown how food affects the mind and the body, they blindly eat whatever you put in front of them. ”

Ron Finley: A GARDENER

Dig in!

The City of El Monte will be hosting several community events and workshops to encourage community participation and gather information:

- Children's Day Parade & Harvest Festival**
Saturday, October 19th, 10:30AM - 1:30PM
Arceo Park - 3125 Tyler Ave, El Monte
- Community Meeting and Workshop**
Thursday, January 23rd, 2014, 6:00 - 8:00PM
Grace T. Black Auditorium
3130 Tyler Avenue, El Monte
- Arbor Day Celebration**
California Arbor Week
March 7-14, 2014, Date and location TBD
- Community Meeting and Workshop**
Thursday, April 10th, 2014, 6:00 - 8:00PM
Grace T. Black Auditorium
3130 Tyler Avenue, El Monte

Please join us, we want to hear from you!

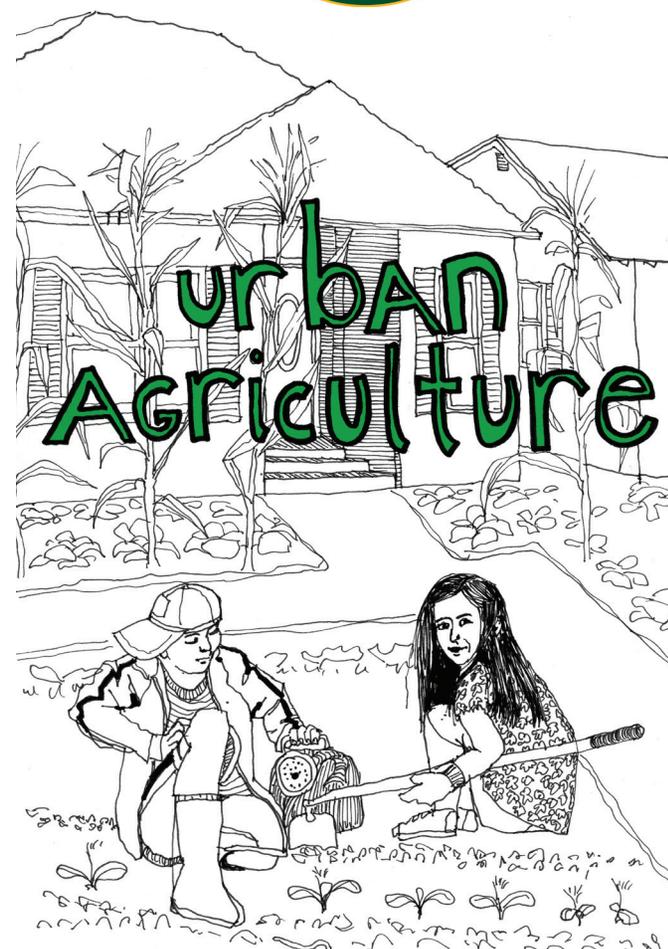


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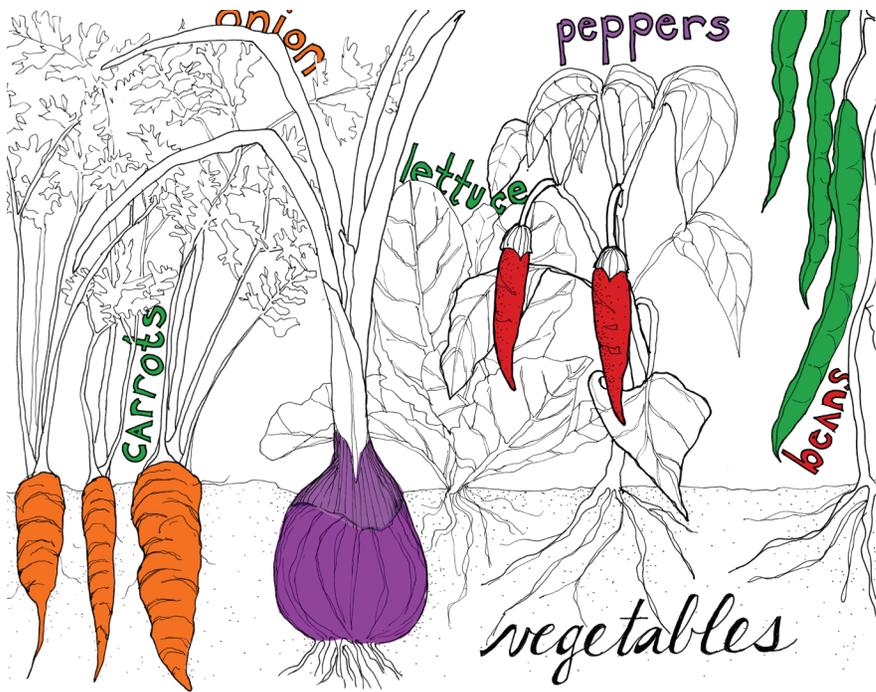
For more information call:
Jerry Moreno, City of El Monte
p: 626-258-8624

Or visit:
www.ci.el-monte.ca.us
www.baselandscape.com



CITY OF EL MONTE Urban Agriculture Initiative Program





What are the City's Urban Agriculture Goals?

FARMERS MARKETS

Create year-round Farmers' Markets and increased accessibility to healthy food.

EDIBLE SCHOOL YARDS

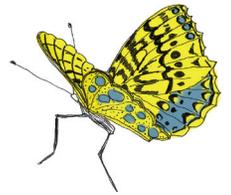
Explore opportunities to create "edible school yards" and gardening programs on schools and other public property.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Build community gardens for El Monte residents to plant vegetables, fruits, and flowers.

AGRICULTURAL ROOTS

Preservation and enhancement of the City's agricultural roots.



Where can it happen?

Urban Agriculture can happen on public, private, communal or institutional land.

-  Open, private yards
-  Vacant & under utilized lots
-  Schools
-  Parks & public facilities
-  Community gardens
-  Parkways
-  Public right-of-ways
-  Roof tops
-  Multiple family developments

A Healthy Community

The City of El Monte was awarded funding from the State of California's Strategic Growth Council (SGC) to develop and establish an Urban Agriculture Initiative Program (UAIP). The goal of the UAIP is to encourage urban agriculture citywide. Key topics that will be addressed include:

-  Feasibility of creating community gardens on both public and private property
-  Accessibility to healthy food and food security
-  Local food production through urban farming, edible schoolyards and creation of farmers markets
-  Encourage sustainable practices in food production

The City is encouraging community involvement and participation in developing an Urban Greening Master Plan to meet several social, economic and environmental sustainability goals and improve the overall quality of life for El Monte residents.

What is Urban Agriculture?

It can be defined as the growing, processing, marketing and distribution of food of all kinds -fruits, vegetables, eggs, meat, honey, grains, etc. - in urban areas.

Urban Agriculture may include public and private community gardens, urban farming/gardening on vacant, under utilized lots and public spaces, green roofs to include container gardening and raised planters, landscaping with edible fruits and vegetables, crop raising, backyard farming, animal husbandry, bee keeping, farmer's markets, farm/fruit/vegetable stands, growing and selling and composting programs.

Urban agriculture is a growing movement that seeks to decentralize the food system by creating small, local food producing centers in urban areas.

