

# Urban Farm Guide



For New England

## Connecticut

### *Common Ground*

358 Springside Ave. New Haven

Phone: (203) 389-4333

Email: [joinus@commongroundct.org](mailto:joinus@commongroundct.org)

Website: <https://commongroundct.org/farm/>

Common Ground is a center for learning and leadership, inviting people across ages and identities to connect to their urban environment, build community, grow into their full potential, and contribute to a just and sustainable world.

We work toward this mission through active, authentic learning rooted in justice and our environment: a farm, in a forest, in a city. Three connected efforts are at the core of Common Ground's work: The nation's longest-running environmental charter school, creating the next generation of successful college students and powerful environmental leaders, An urban demonstration farm, modeling practices of sustainable agriculture and contributing to a healthy food system for New Haven residents and a community environmental education center, offering programs that connect people of all ages with the natural world while helping them develop habits of sustainable living.

### *The Grow Hartford Urban Farm*

Office: 190 Wethersfield Avenue Hartford

Phone: 860-296-9325

Email: [hartfordfood@hartfordfood.org](mailto:hartfordfood@hartfordfood.org)

Website: <https://hartfordfood.org>

In our many years of city farming, our Grow Hartford activities have produced thousands of pounds of healthy, hyper-local produce and has included "on the ground" research on the viability and availability of ethnic crops for Hartford area consumers. Working with other organizations, we develop and publicize agricultural efforts in Hartford to garner recognition of the overall impact of urban farming and community gardens on food security.

As we move forward into the 2021 growing season, we are working on a new project, an aggregation-style CSA, that will help Hartford households access more healthy vegetables and fruit. Stay tuned!

Hartford Food System always relies on a collaborative approach, engaging the talents of government policy makers, local non-profit organizations, residents in local communities and neighborhoods, farmers, chefs, educators, and the commercial food sector in change efforts that promote a fair and just food system.

### *Gather New Haven*

Office: 470 James Street #007 New Haven

Phone: 203-562-6655

Email: [info@gathernewhaven.org](mailto:info@gathernewhaven.org)

Website: <https://gathernewhaven.org/farm-sites>

Gather New Haven has a total of seven farm sites throughout the New Haven community. Together our farms total 65,340 square feet of land and produce roughly 16,500 pounds of organically grown vegetables each year!

Gather New Haven is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization located in New Haven, CT, committed to social and environmental justice. Gather New Haven promotes health, equity and justice for people and the environment by cultivating connections and access to our lands and waters and by inspiring us to care for our wellbeing, our shared community, and our environment.

The 6 farms and more than 50 community gardens managed by Gather promote public health and community development, most notably through the Farm-Based Wellness program, which engages individuals with diet-related chronic disease risk factors as well as their families in gardening and nutrition education. We also host and support a variety of other events in the farms and gardens such as Yoga in the Garden and the Saturday Farm Stand as a part of promoting wellness and fostering community development.

As we strive to work alongside the community and create sustainable community-based programming, we are also building a leadership pipeline by designing job opportunities for member of the communities in which we work.

### *MetroCrops*

380 Mountain Grove Street Bridgeport, CT

Phone: (203) 345-1510

Email: [info@MetroCrops.com](mailto:info@MetroCrops.com)

Website: <https://www.metrocrops.com/>

MetroCrops, LLC is an urban, indoor, vertical farm. Through a 4-year USDA research grant MetroCrops became one of the first indoor farms in New England to grow high quality salad greens.

MetroCrops' first farm was located in a former manufacturing facility on River Street in Bridgeport, CT. In 2020 MetroCrops moved to a new, expanded facility on Mountain Grove Street, also in Bridgeport. MetroCrops grows and harvests salad greens 365 days a year. All our greens are grown from certified organic seeds - never GMO. They are hand-picked, hand rinsed, and hand packaged.

We do not use pesticides or herbicides – there are no pests or weed sources in our indoor grow room. Our plants are high in beneficial antioxidants and other nutrients (based on test results performed in conjunction with the USDA).

## **Maine**

### *Boyd St Urban Farm*

Kennedy Park

Boyd Street

Portland ME

Phone: 207-761-GROW

Email: [freshstartfarms@gmail.com](mailto:freshstartfarms@gmail.com)

Website: [www.cultivatingcommunity.org](http://www.cultivatingcommunity.org)

Boyd Street Urban Farm is truly a source of pride for the state of Maine. It is a friendly welcoming place where young refugees and immigrants work side by side to grow and distribute vegetables to low income elderly residents.

The Youth Growers program is open to young men and women between the ages of 14 and 17. They participate in all aspects of the growing and distribution of the produce. Besides the youth-run garden at the Boyd Street Urban Garden, there is a community garden where area residents can rent one of the 48 12'x6' garden plots. Free beds are available for new American gardeners and residents of the East Bayside neighborhood. Cultivating Community is responsible for all of these undertakings and they are doing a stellar job in truly cultivating the communities of Portland with the Boyd Street garden project.

## **Massachusetts**

### *Mill City Grows Urban Farms*

(Office) 650 Suffolk Street, Suite G10

Lowell, MA

Phone: 978-455-2620

Email: [info@millcitygrows.org](mailto:info@millcitygrows.org)

Website: <https://www.millcitygrows.org/urban-farm/>

In 2017, Mill City Grows worked in partnership with UMass Lowell and launched an Urban Agriculture Greenhouse on UML's East Campus. The site extends the growing season by 4 months and also acts as an education facility for students and faculty.

Our second Urban Farm, affectionately known as the “Big Farm,” was launched in 2014 and is on a four-acre site that we lease from the City of Lowell. This thriving space is where we grow our larger crops and the bulk of our products. A wash and pack station is on site for cleaning and processing harvested produce for our Mobile Market.

### *Gardening the Community*

200 Walnut St.

Springfield, MA

Phone: (413) 301-6574

Email: [info@gardeningthecommunity.org](mailto:info@gardeningthecommunity.org)

Website: <http://www.gardeningthe.org/>

Gardening The Community is a food justice organization engaged in youth development, urban agriculture and sustainable living to build healthy and equitable communities.

GTC operates a training program created for youth from around the Mason Square neighborhood and beyond to grow fruits and vegetables on vacant and abandoned lots. Youth receive a stipend and are taught principles of urban sustainable living and urban agriculture. The food that is grown is sold at our Walnut Street Community Farm Store, the Mason Square Farmers Market, local restaurants, and bodegas (corner stores). Youth also bring food home to their families.

### *Urban Artisan Farm*

250 Albany St. Springfield

Email Through website- <http://www.urbanartisanfarm.org/contact/>

Website: <http://www.urbanartisanfarm.org>

Urban Artisan Farm is about living healthy through urban farming. Hydroponic food production is the method we are using to help address food deserts, with an eye towards innovative ways to increase productivity, sustainability, and energy efficiency. Urban agriculture education can be integrated into schools and social programs.

Hydroponic production has a lower stress, higher productivity and higher yield. Controlled environment agriculture optimizes conditions, control over the nutrients, and less water.

Growing indoors provides urban food deserts with local, fresh and sustainable produce options and a knowledge base for future urban farming. As we grow and experiment with new techniques our hydroponic farm will be seen as a choice for businesses and addressing social issues.

### *Nuestras Raíces*

24 Jones Ferry Road Holyoke

Phone: (413) 535-1789

Email Through Website- <https://nuestras-raices.org/contact/>

Website: <https://nuestras-raices.org>

Nuestras Raíces is a grassroots urban agriculture organization based in Holyoke, MA. Our mission is to create healthy environments, celebrate “agri-culture,” harness our collective energy, and to advance our vision of a just and sustainable future.

The founding members of Nuestras Raíces were all migrating farmers from Puerto Rico with a strong agricultural background, who found themselves in a city without opportunities.

Realizing that the physical landscape of the city was not being cared for, these community members took action into their own hands. They located an abandoned lot in South Holyoke that was full of trash, needles and criminal activity and came together to clean the lot. The lot became the city’s first community garden, sparking the growth of urban agriculture in Holyoke under the umbrella of Nuestras Raíces.

The network of community gardens that emerged has created opportunities for the members of Nuestras Raíces to organize and communicate about the different issues affecting the community throughout the city. Today, Nuestras Raíces coordinates and maintains a network of 14 community gardens with over 600 family members and operates a 30-acre urban farm that focuses on urban agriculture, economic development, and creating food systems change.

### *Revision Urban Farm Administration*

38 Fabian Street Boston

Phone: 617-822-FARM (3276)

Email: [Jgary@vpi.org](mailto:Jgary@vpi.org)

Website: <https://www.vpi.org/revision>

Revision Farm started out has a small garden back in 1990 alongside with the shelter for homeless mothers that is now the Revision Family. Revision Farm brings high quality, locally grown fresh fruit that is affordable to the community. Revision Farm also provides shelter for homeless parent and children and provides job training for youths and homeless. Revision Farm follows three main goals, which are: 1) Small scale green economy development, 2) Community food security 3) Job training and education. Revision Farm holds intern throughout the summer for any who is interested.

### *Urban Farming Institute*

487 Norfolk Street Mattapan

Phone: 617-989-9920

Email: [ufiboston@gmail.com](mailto:ufiboston@gmail.com)

Website: [www.urbanfarminginstitute.org](http://www.urbanfarminginstitute.org)

Urban Farming Institute was created in 2012 out of a global vision for a better food system and local experience of neighborhood residents. Urban Farming Institute brings to the table an urban farming training program that teaches various aspects of urban farming techniques. Some of their goals are to train residents from Massachusetts' urban areas to become successful urban farmers. Educate community, city and state stakeholders in support of appropriate policy changes in regard to land use and urban farming practices. Urban Farming Institute's mission is "to develop and promote urban farming as a Commercial sector that creates green collar jobs for residents; and to engage urban communities in building a healthier and more locally based food system."

### *Green City Growers*

4 Jersey Street, Boston

Phone: (617) 776-1400

Email: [info@greencitygrowers.com](mailto:info@greencitygrowers.com)

Website: <https://greencitygrowers.com/fenway-farms/>

Established in 2008, Green City Growers transforms unused space into thriving urban farms, providing clients with immediate access to nutritious food, while revitalizing city landscapes and inspiring self-sufficiency. With 150 gardens and farms around greater Boston, GCG is most known for its rooftop farms at Whole Foods Market in Lynnfield and Fenway Park. GCG provides garden installations, consulting, and ongoing maintenance and education services for businesses, municipalities, schools, homes, restaurants, and pretty much anywhere the sun shines.

### *Eastie Farm*

213 Webster Street, #2, Boston, MA

Phone: (617) 335-2278

Email: [eastiefarm@gmail.com](mailto:eastiefarm@gmail.com)

Website: <https://eastiefarm.com/>

Eastie Farm grows food and builds community. It is completely volunteer-driven. Neighbors gather on Saturdays to water, weed, and harvest. The produce goes to the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen, Crossroads Family Shelter, and Grace Church food pantry. There are several events that involve food,

music, educational workshops about gardening, composting, and rainwater harvesting. It is an eco-conscious as well as eco-educational space that encourages action on rainwater harvesting, waste management, and open space preservation as a way of climate resiliency in a neighborhood that is in the front lines of Boston's fight against climate change. Eastie Farm is dedicated to improving food access and community resilience through the development of interactive urban agricultural spaces, where residents of all ages and backgrounds are encouraged to learn and take part in the production of healthy, locally-grown, and culturally relevant foods. Website: <https://eastiefarm.com/>

### *NUBIA*

149 Roxbury Street, Roxbury

Phone: (617) 669-2642

Email: [a.sayed@nubianet.net](mailto:a.sayed@nubianet.net)

Website: <https://www.nubianet.net/>

Since 2006 Nubia has been serving the community base in Roxbury. Nubia offers youth's program, workshop covering topics including cooking and weaving. These programs are meant to strengthen the community, provide education and opportunities for young children, teenagers, and families. Nubia seek to create a strong community where youths are active leaders, food sovereignty is celebrated and education reaches all. NUBIA's mission is to impart a lasting impact on food justice, community revitalization, and youth development through education of Nubian culture and heritage, community agriculture, and educational workshops.

### *Boston Medical Rooftop*

One Boston Medical Center Place Boston

Phone: 617.638.8000

Email: [timothy.viall@bmc.org](mailto:timothy.viall@bmc.org)

Website: <https://www.bmc.org/rooftop-farm>

The Rooftop Farm at Boston Medical Center (BMC) sits three stories high on the hospital's power plant building with more than 25 crops. The thriving farm spans 2,400 square feet and is the largest rooftop farm in the city of Boston. The farm not only provides fresh, local produce to our hospitalized patients, cafeterias, The Teaching Kitchen, and Preventive Food Pantry, but is also part of BMC's commitment to going green. In addition to reducing the hospital's carbon footprint, increasing green space, and reducing energy use, the farm also cuts the energy required to transport food.

### *The Food Project*

11 Brook Ave, Roxbury

Phone: (617) 442-1322 617-442-1322 x28

Website: <http://thefoodproject.org>

Since 1991 the food project has been fighting to create a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system. Each year, they work with over 120 teens and thousands of volunteers to farm on 70 acres in Lincoln, Beverly, Boston, Lynn, and in Wenham, Mass. they grow their food without chemical fertilizers and pesticides. They donate thousands of pounds of produce to local hunger relief organizations and sell the rest to community supported agriculture and farmer's market.

### *We Grow Microgreens*

21 Norton St. Hyde Park

Phone: 617) 792-5424

Email: [wegrowmicrogreens@gmail.com](mailto:wegrowmicrogreens@gmail.com)

Website: <https://www.wegrowmicrogreens.com/>

We Grow Microgreens, LLC has almost finished the arduous process of starting an urban farm. Owners Lisa Evans and Tim Smith convinced the City of Boston to convey them a piece of land, persuaded Hyde Park to welcome their farm into its fabric, and were awarded grants from the United States Department of Agriculture, the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture and the City of Boston to help build the farm. They successfully cleared the land, constructed a 4600-square-foot, energy and water-conserving glass greenhouse and two high tunnels, built a landscaped community walking path and filled the farm with raised garden beds. The Farm grows edible flowers and microgreens, as well as herbs, vegetables and medicinal plants. We thank you for your support and patience as we continue to grow into a productive farm.

### **New Hampshire**

#### *Gate City Farms*

23 East Dunstable Rd. Nashua NH

Phone: (603) 930-8199

Email: contact through website

Website: <https://www.gatecityfarms.com>

We want to bring fresh, wholesome produce into the community and change how this city receives its food, one step at a time— starting with the restaurants and institutions within a five-mile radius from the

home base of operations. Gate City Farms has a goal to be a base for other local urban farmers to join our family in our path to a sustainable city that grows its own healthy local produce for their family at home.

## **Rhode Island**

### *New Urban Farmers*

483 Weeden St Pawtucket

Phone: (401) 338-8163

Email: [newurbanfarmer@gmail.com](mailto:newurbanfarmer@gmail.com)

New Urban Farmers work to increase healthy food access and nurture minds in the cities of Pawtucket, Central Falls and surrounding areas by eliminating barriers to healthy food and empowering low-income individuals, families, and at-risk-youth with education and collaboration.

We sell baby greens, micro greens, mushrooms, and root vegetables. In addition we would also like to offer a variety of classes- cooking classes, soil making, transplanting etc.

### *Quaintly Farm*

58 Chatham Street, Providence

Phone: (401) 808-8180

Website: <https://quaintlyfarmri.business.site/>

Quaintly Farm is a Black Woman Owned Urban Farm situated in the North End of Providence, Rhode Island.

Quatia Osorio is ambitious owner of this urban farm that hopes to offer urban farm stands for barter and sale within the North End community. Her 5 children assist her with specialty crop production for her neighbors and community.

### *What Cheer Flower Farm*

63 Magnolia Street, Providence, RI

Phone: (401) 830-0454

Email: [Operations@WhatCheerFarm.org](mailto:Operations@WhatCheerFarm.org)

Website: <https://www.whatcheerfarm.org/>

Flowers bring a deep sense of solace and joy. Flowers are healing. Giving someone a bouquet acknowledges their worth. It says, "You matter. You deserve beauty. You are cared for." What Cheer Flower Farm is a 501c3 nonprofit founded in 2017 with the purpose of growing, rescuing and giving flowers away to those in need, lifting spirits by sharing the beauty of flowers and providing training in growing and floristry.

## **Vermont**

*Queen City Acres*

258 North Winooski Avenue

Burlington VT

Phone: (802) 598-3180

Email: [queencityacres@gmail.com](mailto:queencityacres@gmail.com)

With urban farm plots across the North End neighborhoods of Burlington, Queen City Acres is 100% community housed. We've woven the farm together from multiple backyards, and we've seen the community we work in coming together as well. We see host families and our customers daily, and produce from each plot comes together to generate over 8,000 pounds of produce per year that's available to the community through local co-ops, groceries, food hubs, restaurants, food shelves, and our CSA.