

# How to Farm in the City

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“**How to Farm in the City**”, made possible with a USDA Conservation Innovation Grant, is a dynamic web based resource designed to help people learn the ins and outs of farming in town. Urban farming, done well, has the potential to provide good healthy food with less pollution and energy inputs than food from far away. Urban farming done improperly poses pollution risks to our air, land and water, and even risks to human health. If you are planning on farming in the City, you may want to include high tunnels (hoop houses) to extend your growing season, raise chickens for eggs and meat, harvest honey by keeping bees, build a composting and/or vermicomposting (using worms to break down food) bin to create your own rich soil and reduce waste, incorporate water and energy saving techniques and more. This is a living document designed to help you find resources to do all of those things, essentially, a guide to streamline your process of How to Farm in the City.

If you need information that is missing, or have a favorite urban farming related website to share, contact Mike at the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks and we will work together to make the site better.

**Local Laws/Ordinances** City Ordinances are designed to keep our community safe and grow smarter. Here are a few that may pertain to the farming activities you are interested in.

Regulations to Keeping Chickens in the City of Springfield  
<http://www.springfieldmo.gov/clerk/ordinances/ORD5900.pdf>

Regulations for Personal Gardens, Community Gardens, Commercial Gardens and Farmers Markets in the City of Springfield  
<http://www.springfieldmo.gov/clerk/ordinances/ORD5858.pdf>

Show-Me Yards & Neighborhoods  
<http://www.springfieldmo.gov/cee/smyn.html>

For more information, visit  
City of Springfield, MO <http://www.springfieldmo.gov/home/home.jsp#page=page-1>

**MU Extension** is Missouri’s one-stop source to practical education on many topics including:  
(MU Extension: <http://extension.missouri.edu/>)

Raising Back Yard Chickens  
[http://agebb.missouri.edu/news/swnews/queries/showall.idc?story\\_num=6883](http://agebb.missouri.edu/news/swnews/queries/showall.idc?story_num=6883)

Vegetable Gardening  
<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/MG5>

Vegetable Planting Calendar  
<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/g6201>

Organic Vegetable Gardening Techniques

<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/g6220>

Disease Prevention in Home Vegetable Gardens

<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/g6202>

Vermicomposting

<http://extension.missouri.edu/platte/documents/horticulture/misc/Vemicomposting.pdf>

How to Build a Compost Bin

<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/g6957>

Making and Using Compost

<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/g6956>

Improving Farm Sustainability with High Tunnels

<http://agebb.missouri.edu/sustain/whatnew/hightunnels.pdf>

Beekeeping Tips for Beginners

<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/g7600>

Energy and Your Farm

<http://extension.missouri.edu/energy/yourfarm.aspx>

Community Gardening Toolkit

<http://extension.missouri.edu/p/MP906>

## **Water Harvesting**

Rainwater Harvesting Manual

<http://www.watershedcommittee.org/docs/Rainwater-Manual-Final.pdf>

City of Springfield Rain Barrel Rebate

<http://www.springfieldmo.gov/stormwater/rainbarrel.html>

How to make a Rain Barrel brochure

<http://www.watershedcommittee.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/06/rain-barrell-brochure-rev1.pdf>

## **Soil Testing**

Soil Testing for Better Lawns and Gardens

<http://www.springfieldmo.gov/cee/pdfs/SoilTesting.pdf>

MU Extension Soil Testing

<http://extension.missouri.edu/greene/documents/PlansReports/soiltestFAQ.pdf>

Urban Agriculture and Soil Contamination: An Introduction to Urban Gardening  
[http://louisville.edu/cepm/publications/practice-guides-1/PG25%20-%20Urban%20Agriculture%20-%20Soil%20Contamination.pdf/at\\_download/file](http://louisville.edu/cepm/publications/practice-guides-1/PG25%20-%20Urban%20Agriculture%20-%20Soil%20Contamination.pdf/at_download/file)

### General Soil Information

How Does Your Garden Grow? Brownfields Redevelopment and Local Agriculture  
[http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/success/local\\_ag.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/success/local_ag.pdf)

Urban Soil Primer: For homeowners and renters, local planning boards, property managers, students, and educators  
<http://soils.usda.gov/use/urban/downloads/primer%28screen%29.pdf>

### Examples and Inspiration

**Springfield Urban Agriculture Coalition** promotes healthy lifestyles and environments through hands on education about production and consumption of locally-produced, natural, healthy foods. <http://www.springfielduac.org/>

**Growing Power** is a national nonprofit organization and land trust supporting people from diverse backgrounds, and the environments in which they live, by helping to provide equal access to healthy, high-quality, safe and affordable food for people in all communities. Growing Power implements this mission by providing hands-on training, on-the-ground demonstration, outreach and technical assistance through the development of Community Food Systems that help people grow, process, market and distribute food in a sustainable manner. <http://www.growingpower.org/>

**The Urban Farming™** mission is to create an abundance of food for people in need by supporting and encouraging the establishment of gardens on unused land and space while increasing diversity, raising awareness for health and wellness, and inspiring and educating youth, adults and seniors to create an economically sustainable system to uplift communities around the globe. <http://www.urbanfarming.org/about.html>

**The Urban Farming Guidebook: Planning for the Business of Growing Food in BC's Towns & Cities**  
<http://69.89.31.205/~refbcom/userfiles/Urban-Farming-Guidebook-2013.pdf>

**The Springfield Botanical Center** has been established for enhancing people's lives through plant demonstrations and education. The Gardens at the Botanical Center are a resource for leisure, teaching, and public service missions of University of Missouri Extension and Friends of the Garden. The Botanical Center is owned, operated and maintained by the Springfield-Greene County Park Board. Visit their website to learn more about events and educational opportunities.  
<http://www.parkboard.org/botanical/index.html>

## **Community Gardens in Springfield, MO**

Rutledge-Wilson Farm Community Park - Adopt an Urban Garden

[http://www.parkboard.org/rutledge\\_wilson/urban\\_garden.htm](http://www.parkboard.org/rutledge_wilson/urban_garden.htm)

Springfield Community Gardens

<http://springfieldcommunitygardens.com/>

Southminster Community Garden

[outhminster.net/community-garden.html](http://southminster.net/community-garden.html)

The Kitchen Clinic Herb Garden

<http://springfieldareaherbsociety.wordpress.com/community-gardening-partnerships/kitchen-clinic-garden/>

## **Urban Farms in Springfield, MO**

Fassnight Creek Farm

[www.fassnightcreekfarm.com](http://www.fassnightcreekfarm.com)

Urban Roots Farm

<http://urbanrootsfarm.com/>

## **Where to Sell Produce in Springfield, MO**

Farmers Market of the Ozarks

<http://loveyourfarmer.com/>

Greater Springfield Farmers Market

<http://springfieldfarmersmarket.com/>

C-Street Market

<http://www.localharvest.org/c-street-market-the-commercial-street-farmers-market-M9628>

James River Farmers Market

<http://www.ozarksgardens.com/news/0/0/Qtwvz/james-river-farmers-market.html>

## **Where to Donate Produce in Springfield, MO**

Ozarks Food Harvest

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

The Kitchen, Inc.

[http://www.thekitcheninc.org/donate\\_food.php](http://www.thekitcheninc.org/donate_food.php)

## Where to Buy a Rain Barrel

Smiling Sun

<https://www.smilingsunllc.com/>

Rain Reserve

<http://rainreserve.com/build-a-barrel-kits>

Habitat for Humanity Restore

<http://habitatspringfieldmo.org/restore>

Race Brothers

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

SoMo Farm and Ranch Supply

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

Wickman's Garden Village

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

