

2024 Urban Agriculture Month in Arlington

Description

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ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

URBAN AGRICULTURE MONTH

WHEREAS, Arlington County supports urban agriculture in the emerging indoor and rooftop operations along with the strengthening of regional food system efforts, including matching grant funding to support commercial controlled environment agriculture enterprises in this sector; and

WHEREAS, Arlington supports community gardens and the design elements of biophilic cities to encourage an appreciation of natural processes and the importance of a healthy local ecosystem that also works to support the health of the Chesapeake Bay watershed; and

WHEREAS, through the Food Security Coalition Arlington's resiliency planning addresses natural disasters, extreme climate events, and man-made emergencies to highlight the importance of sustainable food systems and of a coordinated regional approach to grow and distribute fresh food; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County has ten farmers markets with direct sales to up to 4,000 customers each market day along with matching SNAP, WIC and SFMNP benefits; pop-up food markets distributing fresh food; 433 County-supported community garden plots, including an ADA accessible space; yard and food waste collection for composting; and County libraries supporting gardeners through education and demonstration gardens; and school gardens offering learning opportunities for our youth; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Cooperative Extension and its Master Gardener and Master Food Volunteer programs provide extensive public education and volunteer training programs to local residents that facilitate the production and preparation of nutritious food; and

WHEREAS, Friends of Urban Agriculture and its Plot Against Hunger program promote urban agriculture by and developing demonstration urban gardens in partnership with the County and local civic and regional associations, and by supporting school gardens, local gardeners, and gleaning opportunities at area farms to provide fresh produce for individuals and to local food pantries,;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Libby Garvey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim October 2024 as

URBAN AGRICULTURE MONTH

in Arlington County to educate residents and the commercial sector on the benefits and importance of urban agriculture programs in our community that promote healthy and sustainable food systems.

Libby Garvey
Chair

Category

1. Uncategorized

Tags

1. Arlington County
2. urban ag month
3. urban gardens
4. volunteering

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