



Pennsylvania Urban Ag Week

July 11-15, 2022

In Pennsylvania, agriculture is zip code neutral. It's rural and it's urban. It is the powerhouse feeding and fueling Pennsylvania's people and economy.

Urban agriculture is critical to the success of Pennsylvania – gardens and farms in cities, whether on rooftops or vacant plots, address critical gaps in food availability and access, increasing the accessibility of healthy and nutritious foods for those who live in food deserts or apartheid.

July 11-15, 2022 is Urban Agriculture Week in Pennsylvania!

We invite you to celebrate the diversity of Pennsylvania agriculture with Secretary Russell Redding as he tours urban agriculture operations across the commonwealth.

Tours will take place on Monday, July 11 in Erie and Western PA; Tuesday, July 12 in Pittsburgh; Wednesday, July 13 in Harrisburg; Thursday, July 14 in Philadelphia; and Friday, July 15 in Northeastern PA.

A detailed timeline and agenda for each day is on the pages that follow.



**Growing food, strengthening communities,
and bringing people together.**

Over the past three years, the Wolf Administration has invested \$1.5 million in urban agriculture through the Pennsylvania Farm Bill's Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Program. In total, 93 projects have been funded in 19 counties across Pennsylvania for projects that improve agriculture infrastructure in urban areas, the aggregation of product, sharing of resources, and support for community development efforts.

Learn more about the program that's growing and nourishing Pennsylvania's urban communities:
agriculture.pa.gov/pafarmbill

Social Campaign - Hashtags

If you're joining the tours and sharing on social, use the hashtag #PAUrbanAg.

Primary Hashtag: #PAUrbanAg

Secondary Hashtag: #UrbanAgWeekInPA

Follow us and share our information:

-  @PAAgriculture – <https://twitter.com/PAAgriculture>
-  @PADeptofAg – <https://www.facebook.com/padepstofag>
-  @SecretaryRussellRedding – <https://www.facebook.com/SecretaryRedding>

Additional photos and video will be available at [PACast.com](https://www.pacast.com) and the [Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Flickr](#) account.



Monday, July 11, 2022 – Erie

8:00 AM **Wild Field Urban Farm**

Wild Field Urban Farm, 633 E 7th St, Erie, PA 16503

Wild Field is a bicycle-powered, hand-tended farm in Erie's lower East Side. The farm produces a wide variety of seasonal vegetables, herbs, and flowers for their household, friends, neighbors, and several local farmer's markets. The farm's mission is to nourish soil and grow plants for food and beauty, with nature and in community.

9:15 AM Sisters of Saint Joseph Neighborhood Network (SSJNN) Urban Farm

Sister of St Joseph Neighborhood Network, 425 W 18th St, Erie, PA 16502

The SSJNN provides leadership, advocates for local residents, and partners with the broader community to develop opportunities for both personal growth and neighborhood revitalization. SSJNN and its dedicated volunteers maintain five gardens and an urban farm. There are more than 60 families involved, and each plot has a slightly different purpose. A plot at 19th and Myrtle is the Urban Farm where SSJNN works with teens from the neighborhood to grow produce that neighbors and the community can buy at the weekly Little Italy Farmers Market. To date, more than 60 teens have participated in this experience.

10:30 AM Erie Public Schools – East Middle School

East Middle School Garden, 1001 Atkins Street, Erie, PA 16503

The Erie Public Schools district, which encompasses multiple food deserts, is at the heart of a citywide urban gardening revival. In June 2018, East Middle School was awarded a USDA Farm to School grant—one of only two districts in PA and 73 nationwide. Today, there are 14 gardens, plus horticulture and landscape management academic tracks at Erie High School. Students are learning where their food comes from and the financial benefits of growing it themselves. And they're getting the chance to meet farmers, learn about agricultural careers—or even milk a goat at the Waterford Fair.

1:30 PM Lawrence County Social Services

Lawrence County Community Action Partnership – Frew Mill Campus, 1745 Frew Mill Road, New Castle, PA 16101

Area mothers and children will benefit from a Healthy Start facility with urban agriculture as the cornerstone. The Urban Ag Grant funding will allow Lawrence County Social Services to purchase a hydroponic system, in which plants are grown in a water-based nutrient-rich solution, along with building materials and education supplies.

3:30 PM Community Action Partnership – Butler County

771 Mercer Road, Butler, PA 16001

Community Action agencies are public or private entities created by the federal government in 1964 to combat the causes of poverty in their communities. Community Action Partnership (CAP) was designated by the Department of Community and Economic Development to serve Butler County in 2018. CAP has created three gardens in Butler County to grow their own produce. The produce is then used in a Community Supported Agriculture box. CAP has been growing their produce with minimum use of pesticides with the hope to switch to regenerative agriculture practices for their current gardens and any future gardens.

Questions? Onsite contacts for Monday, July 11:

Katie McLaughlin, Deputy Communications Director, 717-884-1351

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 – Pittsburgh

9:00 AM Churchview Farm

3897 Churchview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Churchview Farm is a small sustainable family farmette in the South Hills of Pittsburgh. Churchview exists as a teaching and learning space, where they foster relationships within the community and grow all-natural heirloom vegetables, fruit, and herbs without the use of chemicals or pesticides. They do not sell their produce to the public; instead, it goes home with those who grow it on the farm, and to their in-house chef, Csilla Thackray, who utilizes and preserves it for her seasonal on-the-farm events. It is also allocated to guest chefs for their onsite farm dinners and picnics.

10:00 AM 1 Sound Urban Farm

3200 Universal Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15204

1 Sound Urban Farm is a nonprofit organization, Out of the End Incorporated. The urban farm was established to become a teaching site for community members to learn to grow, sustain, scale, and distribute fresh food to a local organization's cafeteria. The organization is called the Jasmine Nyree Campus, which is geared towards providing life skills to special needs children and adults. This organization also has a community center that provides out of school programming, and we at the 1 Sound Farm will grow and distribute fresh food for them. They also plan to establish a robust herb garden in this area to assist with therapy for our special needs population.

12:00 PM Tree Pittsburgh and Lunch

32 62nd Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Tree Pittsburgh is an environmental nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the City's vitality by restoring and protecting the urban forest through tree maintenance, planting, education, advocacy, and land conservation. The organization's 5-acre campus in Pittsburgh's Upper Lawrenceville neighborhood is home to the Heritage Tree Nursery which grows more than 80 species and produces more than 18,000 seed-grown seedlings annually.

2:30 PM Peace and Friendship Farm

678 Somers Street, Pittsburgh 15219

The Peace and Friendship Farm, operated by U.S. veterans in the Project Love Coalition, welcomes people to come learn how to sustainably grow healthy organic food and to socially engage with one another in ways that build peace and friendship.

Questions? Onsite contacts for Tuesday, July 12:

Michael Roth, Policy Director, 717-210-1217

Haley England, Digital Director, 717-690-9047

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 – Harrisburg

11:30 AM The Bridge

2200 Market St, Harrisburg, PA 17103

The Bridge exists to span the tide that exists between the rich and the poor, the informed and the untaught, the entrepreneur and the everyday citizen. Communities and neighborhoods around the U.S. commonly experience most of the following challenges: food security; access to healthcare; affordable housing; adequate paying jobs; training and education; transportation; sustainable infrastructure (power, water, waste); public safety; inequality; and access to non-predatory funds. These issues together have created systems of oppression for many Black Americans. The Bridge is intended to address all of these challenges by creating a system of empowerment.

1:00 PM YMCA Camp Curtin

2135 N 6th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

The Camp Curtin YMCA is a youth- and community-oriented organization. From sports to music and art, YMCA Camp Curtin provides programs that help to develop youth physically, mentally, and spiritually. YMCA emphasizes fundamentals and fair play in their sports programs, as well as encourage youth to be caring, honest, respectful, and responsible. YMCA programs are fun and rewarding for youth in our community and help to nurture the potential in every kid.

Questions? Onsite contacts for Wednesday, July 13:

Shannon Powers, Press Secretary, 717-603-2056

Thursday, July 14, 2022 – Philadelphia

9:15 AM Eastwick Community Gardens

Bartram & Island Avenues Philadelphia, PA 19153

The Eastwick property sits outside of the Philadelphia Airport area and provides an urban garden space for dozens of Philadelphia growers. Eastwick Community Garden Association is the governing body of the Eastwick Gardens. Composed of the gardeners that rent plots on an annual basis, and the officers that sit on the board. Eastwick is the largest of Philadelphia's community gardens.

10:45 AM John Bartram Gardens

5400 Lindbergh Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19143

John Bartram Gardens is the oldest surviving botanic garden in North America. The garden is operated by the nonprofit John Bartram Association in partnership with the Philadelphia Department of Parks & Recreation. At its core, it is a public park spanning nearly 50 acres in the Kingsessing neighborhood of Southwest Philadelphia, offering peace, rest, and connection.

12:30 PM Pasa Sustainable Agriculture, Philadelphia Headquarters and Lunch

2648 Coral Street, Philadelphia, PA 19125

In February 1992, a group of Pennsylvania farmers decided to host a conference devoted to advancing the art and science of sustainable agriculture. At the time, it was difficult to find reliable education and resources for farmers who wanted to steward their land in harmony with natural ecosystems and who wanted to sell their products locally to support the health and vibrancy of their local communities. These farmers also sought a peer community they could rely on as they worked to navigate the myriad aspects of operating a financially viable farm business. The conference became a treasured annual event, ultimately evolving into what Pasa Sustainable Agriculture is today.

2:00 PM Urban Creators

2316-50 N. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19133

The Urban Creators is a platform for radical and collaborative imagination. Since 2010, they have used food, art, and education as tools to nurture resilience and self-determination in their neighborhood. Now, they're supporting the emergence of a new generation of Urban Creators, organizers, artists, growers, and local businesses who are working to build equity and collective liberation in our communities.

3:30 PM Perrystead Dairy

1639 N Hancock Street, Suite 103, Philadelphia, PA 19122

Perrystead Dairy is an urban Philadelphia creamery. The creamery blends traditional techniques with modern implements in the pursuit of all-new American original cheeses. Their spectacular grass-fed milk comes from caring local Pennsylvania family farmers.

Questions? Onsite contacts for Thursday, July 14:

Katie Schroeder, Communications Director, 717-317-0943

Friday, July 15, 2022 – Northeastern Pennsylvania

10:00 AM Easton Community Garden at the Easton Neighborhood Center

902 Philadelphia Road, Easton, PA 18042

Neighborhood Center is a private, non-profit community-based organization that was incorporated in 1967 to assist low-income residents of the Easton area. The Center prides themselves on being a welcoming place where everyone is made to feel welcome and treated with dignity and respect. Staff stay current on services available to the community and make appropriate referrals, so residents do not feel they are being sent from agency to agency.

11:30 PM The Seed Farm

5854 Vera Cruz Road, Emmaus, PA 18049

The Seed Farm works to cultivate the next generation of farmers through training and incubator programs. The farm provides beginning farmers with affordable access to land, infrastructure, equipment, technical assistance, and more, so that they can start their farm businesses. The farm also offers experiential training throughout the year in skill and knowledge areas that are critical to new farmer success, such as equipment operation, food safety, planning, and marketing.

2:00 PM Wilkes-Barre Community Gardens

Wilkes-Barre Dept. of Health, 71 N. Franklin Street #106, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

Wilkes-Barre Community Gardens provide an opportunity to combat hunger, train life skills, and elevate the quality of lives of all citizens.

Questions? Onsite contacts for Friday, July 15:

Katie McLaughlin, Deputy Communications Director, 717-884-1351

Zack Newby, Deputy Digital Director, 717-836-2383