



# URBAN AGRICULTURE

King Conservation District is pleased to announce the launch of a new Urban Agriculture program. KCD is working with King County cities and other partners to identify strategies to develop urban agricultural opportunities that ensure the expansion of cultivation, processing, and sales of King County-produced food products. KCD will build on existing programs to innovate a holistic approach to urban natural resource stewardship.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Collaborate with member jurisdictions, Sound Cities Association, and the KCD Advisory Committee to assess regional needs for urban farming-related natural resource planning support.
- Continue to market and expand soil fertility services to promote responsible soil amendment practices, so that KCD can serve at least 500 gardeners/farmers per year.
- Increase technical assistance to urban farms across King County through the Urban Farm Planning Technical Assists service, so that we reach 100 land owners over 5 years.



## EMERGING URBAN AGRICULTURE PROJECT THEMES

- **Soil Fertility:** Help urban farmers and gardeners understand how to manage soil fertility, including soil testing and cover cropping, food cycle, and natural resource conservation through practical workshops and site specific technical expertise.
- **Food grown in low-income communities:** Partner with cities and community leaders on opportunistic demonstration projects.
- **Farm Friendly Cities:** Help cities to become more urban agriculture friendly by reviewing comprehensive plans and local regulations, and identifying potential changes.
- **Putting vacant land to work:** Facilitate landowner agreements and other technical support for agricultural access to vacant or underutilized land. KCD will be following the “Community Food Project” model developed by Pierce Conservation District’s Harvest Pierce County and learning lessons from efforts in San Francisco, Portland, and other pioneering jurisdictions, to provide facilitation and guidance to groups who seek to secure access to land for farming.

## A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT

- Cultivates regional or collaborative partnerships (multi-jurisdictional or community groups)
- Has support of jurisdiction’s leadership and demonstrates commitment to sustain beyond assistance
- Will leverage other funds or resources
- Includes partnerships with private landowners or residents to help them manage their part of urban land stewardship

We look forward to working with every member jurisdiction to help enhance urban agricultural opportunities through stewardship. Please contact us if you would like to discuss ideas for a successful project.

Visit us at <http://kingcd.org/programs-urban-agriculture.htm> for more information.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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