



## East Capitol Urban Farm Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. What is East Capitol Urban Farm and where is it located?**

East Capitol Urban Farm is a multi-functional, three-acre farm located in southeast Washington, DC. It includes community beds for gardening, an aquaponics system, walking trails, community art, and playspace for children. The physical address is 5901 East Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC.

### **2. Who constructed East Capitol Urban Farm and why?**

East Capitol Urban Farm was constructed by a team of partners including the University of the District of Columbia's College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability, and Environmental Sciences (UDC CAUSES), the DC Housing Authority (DCHA), the Urban Waters Federal Partnership (UWFP), the DC Building Industry Association (DCBIA), District Department of Energy & the Environment (DOEE), Groundwork Anacostia, and the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities (DCCAH).

UDC leased three acres of land from the DC Housing Authority for a period of three years for the purpose of constructing a community urban farm. The farm was planned and constructed by partners and District residents to help improve the Ward 7 community by transforming a vacant parcel of land into a community resource that promotes urban agriculture, improves food access and nutrition through a community-oriented farmer's market, offers nutrition education, provides community gardening, creates opportunities for entrepreneurship, and includes a research and demonstration site for UDC.

### **3. What amenities are located at East Capitol Urban Farm?**

East Capitol Urban Farm includes gardening beds for Ward 7 residents, a community plaza, a playspace for children, an education & engagement zone, an aquaponics (growing fish & produce in the same space), community art, and a site for a farmer's market. An urban food

hubs education vehicle (aka “food truck”) will also be used for demonstration and food preparation training.

#### **4. Who can use East Capitol Urban Farm and when?**

East Capitol Urban Farm is open to the public from sunrise to sunset daily; however, gardening spaces are allocated only to residents of Ward 7 at this time. Any resident of Ward 7 may contact us at [sustainability@udc.edu](mailto:sustainability@udc.edu) or on (202) 274-6682 to obtain a garden plot application. You may also visit our website: [udc.edu/causes](http://udc.edu/causes).

#### **5. I’m not a gardener or farmer. Is there help?**

UDC CAUSES & its partners offer training opportunities from Farming 101 (e.g. what to plant, when, etc.) to more technical opportunities such as aquaponics systems operations + maintenance. A quarterly training schedule will be released throughout the year. To be added to the list of training opportunities or to receive additional information please contact us at [sustainability@udc.edu](mailto:sustainability@udc.edu) or on (202) 274-6682. You may also visit our website at: [udc.edu/causes](http://udc.edu/causes).

#### **6. What should I do in case of an emergency on site?**

In case of an emergency, please dial 911. After completing the call to 911, please inform UDC by dialing (202) 274-6682.

#### **7. I want to volunteer at the farm. How can I do this?**

Volunteers are always welcome and needed at East Capitol Urban Farm. To volunteer one must complete a brief volunteer application and pass a background check. Once the application is completed, the background check is conducted by UDC and usually takes about 48 hours to receive a response. A background check is conducted due to the number of children & residents who will use the site on a continuing basis. To obtain an application please email us at [sustainability@udc.edu](mailto:sustainability@udc.edu) or call us on (202) 274-6682. You may also visit our website: [udc.edu/causes](http://udc.edu/causes).

#### **8. Is there a farm manager on site?**

UDC staff, students, and volunteers will collectively manage the site. In order for the project to be sustainable, the community is encouraged to take an active role in ensuring success of the farm. The Project Manager is Mr. Harris Trobman, Green Infrastructure Specialist at UDC who may be reached via email: [harris.trobman@udc.edu](mailto:harris.trobman@udc.edu) or phone: (202) 274-6682.

**9. What types of programs/activities are planned for East Capitol Urban Farm?**

We will offer numerous educational & community-oriented events at East Capitol Urban Farm. Some expected programs include: urban gardening, organic gardening, aquaponics training, nutrition education, agri-business & entrepreneurship classes, food preservation, and composting.

**10. Are community schools involved? How can my school be involved?**

Community schools are active in gardening. We have allocated a garden plot space to each school in the neighborhood. We encourage schools to actively participate in gardening and training opportunities. Additional information may be obtained by emailing: [sustainability@udc.edu](mailto:sustainability@udc.edu) or calling us: (202) 274-6682.