



ECO City Farms offers a variety of training opportunities throughout the year to learn about urban agriculture.

Our urban farming classes are offered in partnership with Prince George's Community College, and offer credits. Classes are usually hands-on, with a mix of lecture and discussion. Although we are mostly working to re-skill our local community in these critical food production skills, we also host classes to discuss significant themes in urban agriculture.

All classes meet at our Edmonston farm unless otherwise noted.

Address:  
4913 Crittenden Street  
Edmonston, MD 20781



## How to Register

- Go to [www.pgcc.edu](http://www.pgcc.edu).
- At the top of the screen, click on Owl Link.
- Click the yellow bar on left that says "Workforce Development & Cont. Ed. Students."
- On the far right, click "Search Cont. Ed. Classes".
- In the box labeled "Course Code Number," type the AGR number of your class (in individual listing below). You must use the hyphen if you're typing in a specific course code. Don't use the keyword search, as it usually doesn't return useful or complete results.
- Check the box next to the class you wish to register for, and click "Submit" at the bottom of the page. Fill out the requested information, and be prepared to pay at the end.
- Note there will be a \$7 registration fee charged by PGCC for every class
- All materials are included in your registration, you will not need to pay any fees onsite (even if online registration form says so).

Should you have problems finding or registering for this course, contact:

Bree Cosh/Gabriella Hall: 301-322-0964

Lori Jones: 301-322-0033

## Get Updates!

Sign up for our monthly e-mail newsletter and stay up-to-date about ECO City Farms & all our programs: [info@ecocityfarms.org](mailto:info@ecocityfarms.org)

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[www.ecocityfarms.org](http://www.ecocityfarms.org)

# URBAN AGRICULTURE TRAINING CLASSES



## Our Upcoming Classes

### **AGR-312 Post-Harvesting Processing & Marketing**

Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 8-2pm

You've done your best to grow a beautiful and tasty array of vegetables and the day has come to harvest and market them... don't let that all that work go to waste! This course discusses what critical factors are involved in harvest that retains all the beauty and taste for as long as possible and how to get a fair return on them through local markets (farmers' market, CSA, pick your own, restaurants, grocery stores, coops, and more). We will explore the Edmonston Urban Farm's system for ensuring a high-quality harvest, and participate in a fun harvest/farmers market day activity to stimulate the many pressures, struggles, and successes in "market" gardening.

**Cost: \$165**

### **AGR-330 High Tunnel Construction & Applications I & II**

Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup> & Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** Sept 13<sup>th</sup> 10-12pm, Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 9-1pm

A unique and core part of ECO City Farms' work is providing local food year-round. Our four-season operation utilizes many techniques to ensure that our local markets have access to food, even in the winter. After reviewing the core principles of creating a winter harvest, we will explore the Edmonston Urban Farm's food system of extending the season from growing storage crops, site analysis, building cold frames, constructing low tunnels and high tunnels (passive solar greenhouse), capturing heat through thermal sinks, and recovering the heat potential of the composting process. The class will also help build a complete low tunnel that is ready to withstand the winter elements and protect your crop, at a fraction of the cost of a high tunnel. The second part of the class will cover specific construction techniques and a variety of approaches to constructing and using hoophouses, and we will discuss them at our Edmonston site. Then we will put theory into practice and construct one at our new urban farm in Bladensburg, MD.

**Cost: \$185**

### **AGR-317 Local Strategies for Addressing Climate Change**

Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>

**Time:** 6:30-8:30pm

Food is an important part of the equation as we analyze the growth of population & climate change. Today, half of humanity lives in cities & will increase to 60% within two decades. Agriculture is vulnerable to climate change. Climate change in the United States is already apparent in changing precipitation patterns and more frequent or erratic extreme weather events such as floods, droughts, cold and heat waves. At the very local level, the adverse effects of climate change are already evident where population growth, lack of food security, access to food, and other socioeconomic factors exacerbate the vulnerabilities of family, forest, and farming systems. This course will describe the opportunities and the constraints that farmers face in adapting to shifting climate conditions and emphasize interventions and strategies for survival and change at the local level.

**Cost: \$30**

### **AGR-301 Urban Agriculture: The New Frontier**

Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:30-8:30pm

This course helps to develop a comprehensive understanding of urban agriculture, including the impacts, constraints, opportunities, stakeholders, historical contexts and development trends affecting the growing and distributing food in urban settings. Sustainable energy application on urban farms will also be explored in this introductory session.

**Cost: \$30**

### **AGR-302 Intensive Introduction to Urban Agriculture**

Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>, Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup>, & Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** Sat Oct 11<sup>th</sup> 9-6pm, Sun Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 9-6pm, Sat Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 9-1pm

This 22 hour course has been reconfigured from our 3-day session, highlighting hands-on learning and offering continuing education certificate in urban farming, this course is an urban agriculture primer for those in early stages of their operation. Through lecture, discussion, and application, we

will cover the topics of composting, soil management, crop rotation and families and cover crops, seedling production and management, garden/field preparation and planting, pests and diseases, and related maintenance topics. This is essentially our late spring/early summer composting and urban gardening courses rolled into one, with emphasis on intensive production. Lunch, snacks and all course materials included. Saturday pot luck dinner will allow more networking and one on one discussion with ECO staff.

**Cost: \$583**

### **AGR-305 Crop Planning & Analysis**

Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 9-1pm

*"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail", "A goal without a plan is just a wish!", "If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else"*

We've all heard quotes about this basic rule: organization equals success. In growing, where we can't predict exactly how the soil, plants, animals, weather, our staff, and more will behave, organization doesn't always equal complete success. Regardless, having an idealized roadmap, that becomes more realistic with experience, will ensure a higher chance of success, whether you are growing for your family or for market. Even if you are a winter producer, like us, the depth of winter is a slow time and ideal for reflecting on the past year to make better plans for the next year.

Join this course to go discuss what kinds of records you should consider keeping during the year, how to analyze those records, and use that analysis to produce a crop plan that meets your goals. It's never too late or early to begin organizing your operation for future seasons. We will review a variety of approaches and software out there to fit your needs and meet you wherever you are in the process. For many, this part is not the most alluring, and winter seems more fun when you're just looking at pretty seed catalogs, but we must go deeper and crop planning/analysis is a valuable skill that is fundamental to achieving your goals in the garden.

**Cost: \$150**