



THE GROWING URBAN FARMERS AND FARMS PROGRAM 2022

ECO City Farm's **Growing Urban Farmers and Farms program** helps aspiring and beginning farmers gain the information and practice the skills they need to grow healthy food for themselves and their communities.

WHO

ECO City Farms is a nonprofit urban teaching and learning farm in Prince George's County that grows great food, farms and farmers in ways that protect, restore and sustain the natural environment and the health of local communities. Our partners are Prince George's Community College's (PGCC) and the Prince George's Soil Conservation District—the agency that works with landowners to preserve and protect the environment.

WHAT

ECO's 7-month-long beginning farmer training program begins with 3 hours a week of classroom learning which results in a Certificate of Urban Commercial Agriculture and continuing education credits. It features individualized learning plans and skills mastery badges. The Classroom training is linked to a hands-on apprenticeship and farm visits. **Full participation in all components of the program is required of all trainees.**

WHEN

After the program-wide orientation on January 5, 2022, the PGCC course will begin on January 12, and will continue every Wednesday evening from 6 pm to 9 pm through March 23. We will also meet alternating Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm. Starting in April, all trainees will be required to spend 8-10 hours on-farm weekly and two Wednesday evenings a month through September.

WHERE

Trainees accepted into the **Growing Urban Farmers and Farms** program will grow food at ECO's farms in Edmonston and Bladensburg and attend trainings at ECO's farms in Bladensburg and Edmonston, at the Soil Conservation District in Upper Marlboro, and at the Prince George's Plaza campus of PGCC.

WHY

Everyone needs to know what's in the food their families eat and how its grown. As farmer/poet Wendell Berry says: *To be interested in food but not in food production is clearly absurd.* ECO's goal is to ensure sustainably and locally produced healthy food for all. ECO is funded by the USDA Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Program to train local farmers and proliferate urban farms. We welcome your application for our unique training opportunity.

MORE INFORMATION:

Note: **All program trainees are required provide evidence that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to attending the program.** For more information, please

contact: info@ecocityfarms.org•301-288-1125 or Econewfarmer@gmail.com

To fill out Program Application, click [here](#).

Website: www.ecocityfarms.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/ecocityfarms