URBAN LIVESTOCK CLASSES & SUPPLIES
Chicago counts many bees and chickens among its millions of residents! Connect with these networks and organizations for introductions, trainings and resources.

Chicagoland Chicken Enthusiasts
is an advocacy and networking organization for urban chickens and hosts an online forum for advice, reviews, and articles. sites.google.com/site/chicagochickenenthusi/home

Goat Guardian Guild
hosts educational events at their West Side urban farm and across Chicago. glennarffarm.com/work-with-goats.html

Home to Roost, LLC.
offers poultry classes, phone consultations, school programs, assessments, health consultations, and even emergency house calls. 708-259-6877 htrchickens.com

The Hive
is a full-service beekeeping store that also offers educational classes on-site and across the city. thehive.supply.com

West Side Bee Boyz
offers classes and mentorship on beekeeping for both honey and native bees. facebook.com/westsidebeeboyz

COMMUNITY GARDEN RESOURCES
Community based garden groups are a wonderful way to connect with like-minded individuals. See chicagocommunitygardens.org for one near you, or explore starting your own with your neighbors!

Chicago Community Gardeners Association
coordinates shared resources, facilitates communication amongst gardeners, and hosts educational and networking meetings. chicagocommunitygardens.org

Chicago Park District
provides ways to learn about joining or starting a garden on Park District land. chicagoparkdistrict.com/parks-facilities/community-garden

NeighborSpace
is the only non-profit urban land trust that preserves and sustains gardens on behalf of dedicated community groups. 773-826-3240 neighbor-space.org

COMMUNITY Supported Agriculture (CSA)
directly builds relationships with local farms through a season-long subscription for regular shares of freshly harvested produce. Learn more and find a CSA that works for you at: bandoffarmers.org

Chicago Farmers Markets
are a great way to meet your farmers and participate in your local community. A list of city sponsored farmers markets is at: chicagofarmersmarkets.us and independent markets can be found through the Illinois Farmers Market Association at: ilfma.org/illinois-markets/Ifsmarkets

Urban Farm Stands
offer an opportunity to see urban ag in action. Visit cuamp.org to find an urban farm near you; inquire with them directly about hours and availability.

Local Grocers & Food Cooperatives
are an important year-round component in our local food system. See Zero Waste Chicago for a listing and search the internet for one near you - new organizations are being formed all the time! zerowastechicago.org/groceryshop

Cottage Food
operations provide market opportunities for local farms through value added products. Explore resources and regulations with Illinois Stewardship Alliance: ilstewards.org/policy-work and University of Illinois Extension: extension.illinois.edu/cottage

EAT LOCAL & SUPPORT URBAN AGRICULTURE
One of the best ways to support the local food system is to purchase directly from urban farms in the Chicago region.

Belmont Feed & Seed
is Chicago’s specialty store for people that keep pigeons, bees, chickens, small birds, and other poultry and farm animals in an urban setting. belmontfeedandsseed.com

Chicago Honey Coop
delivers beekeeping classes and resources for individuals, community groups, and schools. chicagohoneycoop.com/classes

Windy City Bees
is a networking and meet up group of beekeepers to share good practices and mutual support. bit.ly/WindyCityBees

Chicago Urban Agriculture Mapping Project (CUAMP)
is an on-going collaboration between AUA, DePaul University, NeighborSpace, Chicago State University, and community-based organizations to publicly map all urban farms and non-residential gardens across the city of Chicago. Register the growing site you lead or own, and search for urban farms and gardens near you! cuamp.org

The Chicago Safe Soils Initiative
is a collaborative project between University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of Illinois Extension, and AUA to build tools to inform stakeholder decision-making and develop evidence-based guidelines to mitigate potential soil risks to food production in Chicago. Receive free soil screening for lead contamination from your urban garden, farm, or yard! See auachicago.org/soil for sampling instructions and additional details.

Advocates for Urban Agriculture (AUA) is a coalition of urban farmers, community and school gardeners, individual supporters, businesses, and organizations dedicated to advancing sustainable urban agriculture in the Chicago region.

In the following pages you will find resources to help you get started with your own garden or farm, connect with educational opportunities, and support local urban growers.

This guide represents a small snapshot of essential resources and services. AUA’s full Urban Agriculture Resource Guide is a comprehensive, vetted collection of local resources for urban agriculture including growing practices, city regulations, funding opportunities, food safety, and business considerations. Find all this and more online at: auachicago.org/resources

AUA’s Listserv is Chicago’s largest urban agriculture communication hub. This free resource is a community forum for the latest urban agriculture news, current events, job postings, opportunities for collaboration, and more. Anyone can join, anyone can share. auachicago.org/aua-list-serv

MINI RESOURCE GUIDE
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INFO@AUACHICAGO.ORG • WWW.AUACHICAGO.ORG
URBAN AGRICULTURE SUPPLIES & SERVICES

Find all the basic ingredients for starting your own urban farm or garden!

SEEDS & STARTS

Christy Webber Farm & Garden
2833 W. Grand Ave.  312-829-8200
cwfg.com

Gethsemane Garden Center
5739 N. Clark St.  773-878-5915
gethsemanegardens.com

Johnny’s Selected Seeds
johnneys.com

SOIL, COMPOST, MULCH, & AMENDMENTS

For information and good practices for complying with Chicago’s composting ordinance, see: auachicago.org/resources

Christy Webber Farm & Garden
2833 W. Grand Ave.  312-829-8200
cwfg.com

E-Z Tree Recycling
7050 S. Dorchester Ave.  773-493-8600
e-ztreerecycling.com

Midwest BioAg
(800) 327-6012
midwesternbioag.com

CROP Services International
800-260-7933  cropservicesintl.com

RAISED BED BUILDING MATERIALS

Lake Street Landscape Supply
1810 W. Lake St.  312-226-0760
lakestreetsupply.com

ReBuilding Exchange
1740 W. Webster Ave.  773-252-2234
rebuildingexchange.org

INDOOR GROWING & SEASON EXTENSION

Brew & Grow
3625 N. Kedzie Ave.  773-463-7430
brewandgrow.com

Chicago Roots: Hydroponics & Organics
4020 W. Irving Park Rd.  773-545-4020
chicagorootshydro.com

SOIL TESTING

Depaul University Department of Environmental Science & Studies
1110 W. Belden Ave.
Email jmontgom@depaul.edu with 'soil testing' in the subject line

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
1011 Plant Sciences Laboratory,
1201 S. Dorner Dr. Urbana, IL 61801
bit.ly/SoilScreeningUIUC

Loyola Environmental Testing Laboratory
6349 N. Kenmore Ave.  773.508.2056
bit.ly/SoilTestingLoyola

URBAN AGRICULTURE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Whether you’re looking to learn about growing your own food, continuing professional development, or starting a career in urban agriculture, the following organizations cover an incredible range of educational and networking opportunities.

Angelics Organics Learning Center serves prospective, beginning, and experienced farmers through training in regenerative agricultural practices, business planning, and financial management at their sites in Chicago and Caledonia, IL. learngrowconnect.org

Bionutrient Food Association-Chicago Chapter offers grower and consumer education, provides soil interpretations and prescriptions, and hosts soil, seed, and inoculation workshops. bionutrient.org/site/chapters/US/chicago-il

Chicago Botanic Garden leads a wide range of classes, workshops, and certification courses at the Chicago Botanic Garden and Windy City Harvest urban farm sites. chicagobotanic.org/urbanagriculture

Garfield Park Conservatory hosts classes, workshops, and lectures on topics such as beekeeping, composting, and gardening. garfieldconservatory.org

Midwest Fruit Explorers is a non-profit organization of amateur backyard fruit growing enthusiasts that coordinates lectures, workshops, events, and more. midfex.org

Openlands offers workshops on planning a school garden, eco-explorations for youth, and resources for teachers in developing outdoor curriculum, learning, and nature education. openlands.org

Permaculture Chicago Teaching Institute hosts events, workshops, certificate programs, and design services for urban permaculture design. permaculturechicago.com

Peterson Garden Project promotes pop-up victory gardens and educational resources whose primary purpose is to teach people in urban settings how they can grow their own food. petersongarden.org

Plant Chicago cultivates local circular economies and food production through education, research, and small business support. plantchicago.org

University of Illinois Extension serves Cook County by offering programming and resources around conservation, school gardens, cottage food and nutrition, and Masters courses in urban farming, gardening, and naturalism. web.extension.illinois.edu/cook

Chicago Partnership for Health Promotion at University of Illinois Chicago provides training and resources on food systems, wellness, nutrition, and container gardening. aauachicago.org/resources

Urban Growers Collective offers agriculture, small business development, and equity building workshops to prepare growers to develop community food projects, commercial urban farms, and more. urbangrowerscollective.org

Many of the above organizations offer a component of job skills training, and organizations like Chicago Lights, Chicago FarmWorks, Growing Home, Sweet Beginnings, and Sweetwater Foundation offer workforce development for youth, and for adults with barriers to employment.