

Build Resilient Communities Through Urban Agriculture

- According to the USDA, agriculture contributes to 9% of toxic greenhouse emissions in the USA.
- According to the EPA, agriculture is responsible for 10% of USA greenhouse gas emissions.
- The EPA and USDA partner to advance sustainability in growing food.
- The EPA reports that the agricultural sector, more specifically livestock cultivation, is THE largest source of methane emissions in the United States.
- GHG Emissions from Cows, Livestock Are More Potent Than Cars, Per EPA (msn.com, July 2024)
- If you add livestock, farming methods, deforestation, food waste, equipment, transportation and all contributors, what we eat is the #1 cause of global warming, according to Drawdown at www.drawdown.org
- Drawdown Solutions to Reverse Global Warming: #3 Reduce Food Waste #4 Eat a Plant-Rich Diet #11 Regenerative Agriculture Methods
- People are eating MEAT-BASED DIETS – more meat, less produce. Big Ag (industrial agriculture) is not feeding America. It's feeding livestock.
- Two-thirds of USA fruits and vegetables are imported. <https://farmaction.us/foodnotfeed/>
- **One Solution: Regenerative Agriculture**
 - Water Conservation, Soil Conservation
 - Native Plants, Cover Crops
 - Pollinator Gardens
 - Hydroponics
 - Vertical Gardening
 - Reduce Organic Waste to Landfills
 - Compost Bins, Worm Bins, Chicken Coops
- **Practical Practices**
 - Eat local food. This practice reduces plastic packaging and transportation emissions.
 - Eat less meat. This practice reduces the amount of land used to feed livestock rather than people. It also reduces water consumption necessary to grow crops for livestock
 - Plant a garden at home or at church. Share fresh produce through an on-site Little Food Pantry.
 - Compost. Reduce methane emissions from rotting food in landfills by using a compost bucket at home and a compost system at church.
- **What to Do at Home:** Reduce your lawn. Plant native fruit-bearing trees.
- **What Can We Do at Church?**
 - Reduce the lawn. Add pollinator gardens.
 - Plant native fruit-bearing trees.
 - Start a community garden with a compost system.
 - Take a soil sample to your local County Agricultural Extension Office and follow their advice for healthy soil.
 - Prepare the ground with donated cardboard.
 - Add a Little Food Pantry with fresh produce to share with neighbors in need.