Urban Agriculture

What is Urban Agriculture?

Urban Agriculture is broadly defined as agricultural activities, limited to the cultivation of plants and produce and not including animal husbandry or keeping of livestock. A Special Use permit is required when Urban Agriculture is the primary use on a parcel or if Urban Agriculture is an accessory use that uses 10,890 square feet of land or more.

Urban Agriculture does not include beekeeping or the raising of urban chickens, but these permits can be obtained separately if the property meets all applicable requirements.

Contact the Development Services department to apply for a Special Use Permit for Urban Agriculture. This permit must be renewed annually and has a fee of $25.

About Urban Agriculture

Urban Agriculture covers a variety of uses, from a community garden to a large backyard vegetable garden. It can be the primary use on the lot, or an accessory use on lots with other structures, such as homes, schools, or businesses.

Urban Agriculture Requirements

- Must obtain a Special Use Permit if Urban Agriculture is the primary use on a lot or if more than 10,890 square feet of land is occupied for Urban Agriculture as an accessory use.
- Uses of mechanical farm equipment is limited to walk-behind equipment or small garden tractors. Larger machinery intended for industrial agriculture shall not be used as part of Urban Agriculture.
- Pesticides, insecticides, fertilizers, and other chemical products used in Urban Agriculture must be designed for household use. Chemical products designed for commercial agriculture shall not be used.
- All seed, chemicals, tools, and equipment stored on-site must be kept in a primary or accessory structure.
- Urban agriculture may be incorporated into required landscaping or bufferyards, but must have a minimum setback of five feet from front, side, and rear lot lines.
- Parcels used for urban agriculture must be situated, operated, and maintained to minimize any impacts on the surrounding area, including odor control, debris control, and rodent and pest control.