

# Urban Agriculture: An Overview with Special Emphasis on People with Disabilities and Veterans

**Emily Toner, Purdue Extension Cindy Chastain, National AgrAbility Project** 

Thursday, February 25, 2016 3:00 p.m. EST



### **Basic Webinar Instructions**

Audio available through computer or phone.

Check sound via Communicate>Computer Audio Settings.

Closed captions: use arrow to expand or contact the Media Viewer window.

Expand/contract any of the windows in the right-hand column with the arrows.

Expand/contract the size of the right-hand column.



### **Basic Webinar Instructions**

#### Questions and comments

- Click Chat icon at top right of screen (it should turn blue). Enter message in box, choose who to send it to, and click send. You may enter questions about the presentation at any time.
- In addition, during the Q & A period, if you have a web microphone, click the "Raise Hand" icon to indicate that you have a question. We will enable your microphone.



### **Basic Webinar Instructions**

4 quick survey questions + opportunity to share comments

Session recorded and archived with PowerPoint files at <a href="www.agrability.org/Online-">www.agrability.org/Online-</a>
Training/archived

Problems: use chat window or email agrability@agrability.org



**AgrAbility:** USDA-sponsored program that assists farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers with disabilities.

Partners land grant universities with disability services organizations. Currently 20 state projects National AgrAbility Project: Led by Purdue's Breaking New Ground Resource Center.

#### Partners include:

Goodwill of the Finger Lakes The Arthritis Foundation, Heartland Region University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Colorado State University

More information available at www.agrability.org

## **Urban Agriculture**

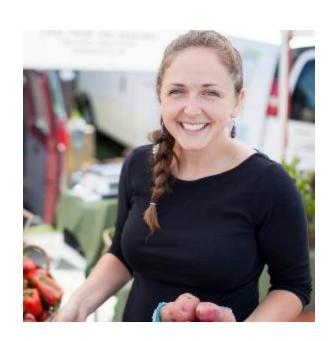
#### **Emily Toner**

Urban Agriculture Educator



#### **Emily Toner**

**Emily Toner** is urban agriculture educator for Purdue Extension - Marion County in Indianapolis. She has lived in Indy for two years and supports the urban agriculture community by providing direct education opportunities as well as building the food system community. Emily is originally from lowa, where she received a bachelor's degree in agronomy from Iowa State University. She also has two graduate degrees from the University of Wisconsin -Madison, a Master of Science in geography and a Master of Arts in journalism.



### **Emily Toner**

Urban Agriculture Educator







Iowa State University



University of Wisconsin - Madison

I. What is urban agriculture?
II. Types of urban agriculture
III. Challenges for urban farmers
IV. Opportunities for urban farmers
V. Financial trade-offs

### I. What is urban agriculture?

"The growing, processing and distribution of food crops and animal products — by and for the local community — within an urban environment."

**University of Missouri Extension** 



Photo credit: Big City Farms, Indianapolis, IN

**Community garden** 

Market farm

Institution-driven garden

**Urban homestead** 

**Community garden** 



Fall Creek Gardens, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: fallcreekgardens.org

#### **Market Farm**



Growing Places, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: Emily Toner



Big City Farms, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: Big City Farms newsletter

#### Institution-driven garden



Eskenazi Hospital Sky Farm, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: EskenaziHealth.edu



Paramount School of Excellence, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: Emily Toner

#### **Urban Homestead**



Residential backyard, Pasadena, CA Photo credit: EcoWatch.com

# III. Challenges for urban farmers

Soil quality: Contaminants, compaction, subsoil

Water: Access

**Policy:** Zoning

Learning curve: Beginning farmers, small peer network

# III. Challenges for urban farmers

Soil quality: Contaminants, compaction, subsoil

Water: Access

**Policy:** Zoning

Learning curve: Beginning farmers, small peer network

# Learning Curve: Purdue Urban Farm Incubator

A land-based program to support urban farmers to develop sustainable enterprises by providing access to land and basic infrastructure along with training and mentorship.

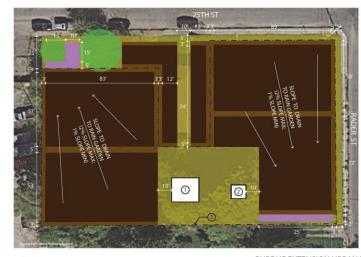


















EXISTING TREE

TREATMENT B AREA TOPSOIL (SEE SOIL PREPARATION SPEC)

TREATMENT B AREA, MULCH (SEE SOIL PREPARATION SPEC)

TREATMENT A AREA (SEE SOIL PREPARATION SPEC)

RAINGARDEN, (SEE SOIL PREPARATION SPEC)

CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY ALL LOCATIONS AND MEASUREMENTS IN FIELD.

NOTE-



## Learning curve: IndyGrown

**Mission:** IndyGrown supports a cooperative network of urban farms by raising awareness of urban farming in Indianapolis and connecting urban farmers to one another and to professional development opportunities.

**Vision:** IndyGrown's vision is that Indianapolis has a vibrant patchwork of farms that provide an abundance of healthy produce to citizens.



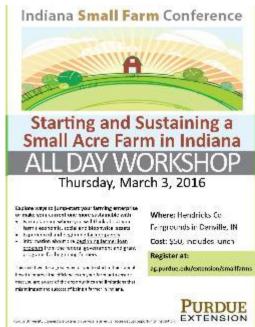


Growing Places Indy, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: Emily Toner

## Learning curve: Beginning Farmers



Tours
Workshops
Field trips
Indiana Small Farm Conference
(today is last day to register!)



Market access

**Highly customized system** 

Multidimensional focus possible

**Market access,** direct market sales opportunities are abundant and farm-to-table restaurants are nearby



Broad Ripple Farmers' Market, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: DoingIndy.com













Bluebeard, Indianapolis, IN Image credit: Bluebeard.com

**Highly customized system** 





Purdue Extension – Marion County Demonstration Garden, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: Steve Mayer

**Highly customized system** 





Butler University Center for Urban Ecology Farm, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: Butler University Center for Urban Ecology

#### Multidimensional focus possible







Growing Places Indy, Indianapolis, IN Photo credit: Growing Places Indy

### V. Financial trade-offs

Lower than traditional agriculture Higher than traditional agriculture

Tool investment Land prep and remediation

Machine labor Hand labor

Acreage Return per acre

## Thanks!

#### **Emily Toner**

Urban Agriculture Educator

