

Franklin County Urban Agriculture Critical Infrastructure Grant

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District is excited to announce an Urban Agriculture Critical Infrastructure Grant in partnership with Franklin County Economic Development and Planning. This grant makes \$150,000 of federal ARPA funding available to local growers. Each individual organization may apply for up to \$15,000 of grant funding. This grant seeks to strengthen the local food supply chain and support local farmers and is available to both for-profit and non-profit farms, including community gardens and other types of growing operations. Growing operations five (5) acres and below are eligible to apply, with additional consideration given to operations under 1 acre. Eligible uses of this grant include infrastructure that helps local farms and community gardens scale up their production and distribution, with examples including but not limited to high tunnels, water service, cold/dry storage, and market stands.

This grant will open on December 15th, 2023, and will close February 1st, 2024. Grant applications will be evaluated by FSWCD, Franklin County, City of Columbus, and other key community partners. Awarded grantees will be provided with technical assistance to ensure the funding is effectively utilized.

FSWCD would like to thank Franklin County Board of Commissioners, City of Columbus, Franklin Park Conservatory, OSU Extension, Osteopathic Heritage Foundation, and the Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Board for their partnership throughout the planning process. This grant builds on and contributes to the ongoing efforts to implement the Columbus & Franklin County Local Food Action Plan.

Questions can be directed to our office at 614-486-9613 or at <https://www.franklinswcd.org/contact>.