

VINES

VOLUNTEERS IMPROVING
NEIGHBORHOOD ENVIRONMENTS

Community Gardens
Binghamton Urban Farm
Youth Empowerment
Farm Share

GROWING FOOD. GROWING COMMUNITY.



607-205-8108

vinesgardens.org

info@vinesgardens.org



vinesgardens

VINES' MISSION

VINES is an organization committed to developing a sustainable and just community food system.

what we do

- Transform
- Cultivate
- Empower

why we do it

- Revitalize neighborhoods
- Healthy people
- Self sufficiency

how we do it

- Gardens
- Education & youth development
- Volunteer service



FOOD DESERTS





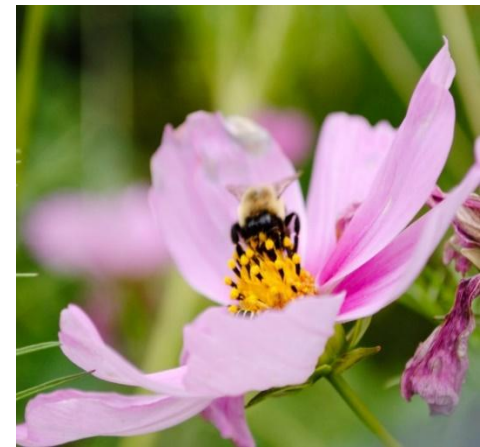
Benefits of Community Gardens and Urban Agriculture

- Neighborhood beautification
- Creation of public space for people to grow food
- Improved food security
- Providing education around gardening and nutrition
- Improving the quality of life for residents
- Stimulating neighborhood and community development
- Creating opportunities for recreation, exercise, and socializing



OUR PROGRAMS

- Community Gardens
- Binghamton Urban Farm
- Grow Binghamton youth employment program
- Farm Share
- Green Thumb Workshops
- Build a Garden Program



WHAT IS A COMMUNITY GARDEN?

A community garden is a property that is managed and developed by *community members* to produce food crops for personal consumption.



- 22 gardens with 500+ garden beds
- Plot rentals: \$20-30 per year (no questions asked discounts)
- Volunteer Site Coordinators
- Cooperative maintenance

This map of Binghamton, NY, illustrates the city's layout along the Susquehanna River. Key features include:

- Geography:** The Susquehanna River flows through the city, with the Chenango River joining it from the north. Major highways shown are I-81, I-86, and I-190.
- Education:** SUNY Broome Community College and Binghamton University are prominent.
- Commerce:** Retailers like Walmart Supercenter, Wegmans, and Lowe's Home Improvement are marked.
- Landmarks:** The Bundy Museum of History and Art, Phelps Mansion Museum, and Otsiningo Park are labeled.
- Hotels:** The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Binghamton is highlighted.
- Other:** The map includes numerous red location pins, likely representing data points or specific sites of interest, and various local businesses like Sonic Drive-In and Weis Markets.

GREGORY LANE COMMUNITY GARDEN BEFORE



GREGORY LANE COMMUNITY GARDEN BEFORE



GREGORY LANE COMMUNITY GARDEN AFTER



GREGORY LANE COMMUNITY GARDEN AFTER



GREGORY LANE COMMUNITY GARDEN AFTER



BINGHAMTON URBAN FARM

The Binghamton Urban Farm is located in downtown at 16 Tudor Street on 2 ¼ acres and encompasses 16 contiguous city lots. We grow primarily vegetables and have a perennial food forest.

Where you can buy our produce:

- Buy a Farm Share: mini, small, and large sizes available
- Pop-up Farm Stand on Susquehanna St.

BINGHAMTON URBAN FARM PROJECT

TUDOR ST SITE BEFORE



BINGHAMTON URBAN FARM PROJECT

TUDOR ST SITE BEFORE





BINGHAMTON URBAN FARM PROJECT

TUDOR ST SITE AFTER









GROW BINGHAMTON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

- Paid youth employment (Ages 14-21)
- Three sessions: Summer – 6 weeks (25 youth), Spring & Fall – 8 weeks (8 youth each)
- Hard Work & New Skills!
- Urban Farm: Growing 5,000+ pounds of food for 70+ families/year
- Build-A-Garden: constructing home gardens – serving 50+ homes/year
- Trainings: Financial literacy, resume writing, interview prep, cooking, and Tours of Farms & Food Businesses



WHY FARM WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

- Limited employment opportunities for youth
- Meaningful Work
- Give back to the community
- Personal and social change
- Develop leaders in the food system
- Reconnection with where food comes from
- Interdisciplinary learning



GROW BINGHAMTON CREW 2024



FARM SHARE PROGRAM

Farm Share is a modified CSA targeted to low-income residents (but open to anyone)

The program offers:

- Flexible payment plans
- Matching funds for low/moderate income customers
- Several share size and price options
- 14 Neighborhood distribution sites



WHAT DOES A SHARE LOOK LIKE?



Binghamton Urban Farm – Double Share

FARM SHARE BY THE NUMBERS

- Distributed to 700+ community members in 2024
- 4,200 shares in total distributed
- 61% of members receive discount, \$45,000 in discounts provided
- 90+% of members reported learning how to prepare new vegetables
- 75+% of members reported increasing their daily intake of vegetables
- \$92,000+ in locally grown produce sold annually



“The program increased the amount of vegetables my family ate while decreasing my grocery bill.”
– Farm Share customer

GREEN THUMB WORKSHOPS

- Always FREE & open to the public
- Practical workshops focused on gardening, cooking, & food preservation



BUILD A GARDEN PROGRAM

- Provides lumber-framed raised beds or grow bags at people's homes
- Open for people in Binghamton, Johnson City, Endwell and Endicott
- Households that are low income, have barriers to food access are prioritized
- Donation based, pay what you can program
- Seedlings and gardening guidance provided!



DICK ANDRUS COMMUNITY ORCHARD

- Orchard in memory of a VINES founder
- 29 & 31 Corbett Ave, donated by Dick & his children, across street from Corbett Community Garden
- Goals:
 - Preserve Dick's fruit trees and expand orchard to produce fruit for community
 - Create nursery for trees and fruit bushes to plant at community gardens
 - Develop the Andrus Paw Paw cultivar
 - Diversify the wooded lot



VINES NET ZERO OFFICE PROJECT

- Downtown Binghamton, 157 Susquehanna Street
- 4,000 square-feet, 2 story
- Net Zero Energy with onsite PV
- Straw Bale Construction
- Completed July 2024





Zoning and Other Municipal Support

- Zoning Laws
 - City of Binghamton
 - Community gardens are a defined and allowed land use
 - Water access is codified
 - Other Municipalities
 - Zoning grey area
 - Water access not codified



HOW TO SUPPORT VINES

- Sponsor an event or garden
- Volunteer
- Donate
- Organize a workday with your group
- Follow us on Social Media
- Help spread the word!





607-205-8108

info@vinesgardens.org

vinesgardens.org

  vinesgardens

