

Additional Resources for “NRCS and Wildlife Habitat in Urban Environments: Linking Farm, School, and Community Agriculture” Webinar, 23 June 2015

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Webinar replay <http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/nrcs-and-wildlife-habitat-in-urban-environments>

The following topics are ordered based on what seemed most relevant to the program, with references and a list of acronyms spelled out at the end, but you can jump to topics by clicking on items listed here (alphabetically):

[Acronyms](#) - [Farm Bill Programs](#) - [Farmer Veterans](#) - [Farming and Wildlife](#) - [Local Multiplier](#) - [Marketing](#) - [NRCS Resources](#) - [Other Federal Efforts](#) - [Recommended Reading](#) - [Roadsides & ROWs](#) - [SWCDs](#) - [Schools, Community Gardens, & Health](#) - [Urban Food & Work](#) - [Urban Wildlife](#)

Farm Bill Programs

- USDA overview
<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/newfarmers?contentidonly=true&contentid=farmbillstories.html>
- NRCS overview <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/farmbill/>
- National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition overview
<http://sustainableagriculture.net/publications/grassrootsguide/farm-bill-programs-and-grants/>
- The People’s Garden Initiative
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/plantmaterials/home/?cid=stelprdb1142414>

NRCS Resources

Your NRCS: To learn about NRCS programs, receive technical assistance, and learn about eligibility for financial assistance, contact your local NRCS District Conservationist or, where available, Urban Conservationist. Visit <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>, then click on State Websites (top right corner), click on your state, then on the “Contact Us” tab for your state’s Local Service Centers.

- Backyard Conservation http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/az/home/?cid=nrcs143_023574
- Conservation Innovation Grants <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>
- EQIP <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/>
 - Seasonal High Tunnel System Initiative for Crops
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/programs/?cid=stelprdb1046250>
 - Cleveland, OH Season High Tunnel Initiative <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mleeQRatut0>
 - Hobson City, AL community garden <http://go.usa.gov/3E6K4>
- Plants & Animals <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/plantsanimals/>
- Rapid Watershed Assessments
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/?&cid=stelprdb1042191>
- Small Scale <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/people/?cid=stelprdb1167242>
- Urban Conservation and Sustainable Landscaping
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/plantmaterials/technical/publications/?cid=stelprdb1044049>
- NRCS conservation planning tools
 - Rapid Watershed Assessments
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/?&cid=stelprdb1042191>
 - Web Soil Survey <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>
 - PLANTS Database <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>

- National Resources Inventory <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/technical/nra/nri/>
- DamWatch <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/mo/newsroom/?cid=stelprdb1097645>
- Pollinator Conservation <http://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/NRCSdocuments.html>

Farming and Wildlife

- Pollinator Conservation <http://www.xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/agriculture/>
- Conservation Biological Control <http://www.xerces.org/conservationbiocontrol/>
- Wild Farm Alliance <http://wildfarmalliance.org/>
- Cover Crops & Wildlife webinar, 22 June 2015 <http://practicalfarmers.org/farmer-knowledge/farminar-archive/>
- Monarch Joint Venture <http://www.monarchjointventure.org/>

Soil and Water Conservation Districts, School, Community Gardens, & Health

- National Association of Conservation Districts <http://www.nacdnet.org/>
 - NACD Urban and Community Conservation Webinars, including Alfonso Norwood's full presentation <http://www.nacdnet.org/policy/urban/webinars>
- Community Conservation Assistance Program in North Carolina http://www.stokesswcd.org/pdfs/CCAP_Brochure.pdf
- Portland, OR SWCDs offer urban conservation programs (shared by Karen Fuller, OR NRCS Urban Conservationist)
 - Clackamas County SWCD: <https://conservationdistrict.org/resources>
 - East Multnomah SWCD: <http://emswcd.org/in-your-yard/>
 - Tualatin SWCD: <http://www.swcd.net/help-for-homes/>
 - West Multnomah SWCD: <http://www.swcd.net/help-for-homes/>
- Let's Move <http://www.letsmove.gov/>
- National Farm to School Network <http://www.farmtoschool.org/>
- School garden program at Earthworks in Los Angeles, CA http://www.kcet.org/socal/urban_farms/ and <http://www.kcet.org/socal/departures/el-monte/seeds-of-change-the-value-of-school-gardens-in-education-and-community-health.html>
- Dekalb County, Georgia school garden <https://pottsmersfit4life.wordpress.com/2015/03/26/usda-helps-plant-a-seed-for-a-healthier-next-generation-of-inner-city-students/>
- Million Pollinators Garden Challenge <http://millionpollinatorsgardens.org/>
- Center for Humans and Nature <http://www.humansandnature.org/blog/spain-find-wild>
- Citizen Science and Education
 - Xerces Society <http://www.xerces.org/citizen-science/>
 - Meet Your Neighbors <http://meetyourneighbours.net/>
 - National Wildlife Federation <http://www.nwf.org/Wildlife/Wildlife-Conservation/Citizen-Science.aspx>
 - List of Citizen Science Projects https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_citizen_science_projects
 - Citizen Science Alliance <http://citizenscienceassociation.org/>
 - iNaturalist <http://www.inaturalist.org/>
 - Citizen Science Central <http://www.birds.cornell.edu/citscitoolkit>
- Master Gardeners & Junior Master Gardeners <http://www.extension.org/mastergardener> and <http://imgkids.us/>
- Master Naturalists <http://www.ecosystemgardening.com/master-naturalist-programs-by-state.html>
- Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs <http://www.anrosp.org/index.html> (great set of additional resources on their website)
- North American Association of Environmental Educators <http://www.naaee.net/>
- Association for Experiential Education <http://www.aee.org/>

Urban Food & Work

- An international perspective on urban agriculture https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Urban_agriculture
- Midwest Urban Farmers Summit <http://midwesturbanfarmers.org/>
- Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Food Policy Coalition <http://cccfoodpolicy.org/>
- Growing Power, Inc. <http://www.growingpower.org/>
- Digging Ohio City <http://www.neofoodweb.org/video/digging-ohio-city>
- 7 Urban Farmers You Should Know
http://www.theroot.com/articles/culture/2015/04/urban_farmers_you_should_know.html
- Center for Urban Agriculture & Gardening Education
http://www.udc.edu/college_of_urban_agriculture_and_environmental_studies/center_for_urban_agriculture_gardening_educat
- USDA Economic Research Service maps <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas.aspx>
- Food deserts <https://abeeb2.wordpress.com/2015/02/16/starving-and-obese-the-fatal-effects-of-food-deserts-in-america/>

Urban Wildlife

- US Fish & Wildlife Service Urban Wildlife Refuge Initiative
<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/vision/urbanwildliferefugeinitiative.html>
- US Forest Service Urban Wildlife (part of the USDA) <http://www.fs.fed.us/research/urban/wildlife.php>
- Going Native: Urban Landscaping for Wildlife With Native Plants <http://www.ncsu.edu/goingnative/>
- Wild Ones <http://www.wildones.org/>

Marketing for Smaller Farmers & Regional Food Hubs

Linking producers to new markets <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMsv1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5088011>

Farmer Veterans

Farmer Veteran Coalition <http://www.farmvetco.org/>

Local Economy Multiplier Effect

- Sustainable Cities Collective <http://sustainablecitiescollective.com/david-thorpe/1030046/dont-shop-online-youre-slowly-killing-your-local-community>
- Buy Local Efforts http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/USDA_Resources_Buy_Local_5-2014.pdf

Roadsides and Rights-of-Way

Highways Bettering the Economy and Environment Pollinator Protection Act

<http://advocate.asla.org/app/document/8147191;jsessionid=ttqmlavNBhSbp7ErZczs53eS.undefined>

Other Federal Efforts Impacting Urban Wildlife Conservation

- National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/Pollinator%20Health%20Strategy%202015.pdf>
- US EPA Brownfields and Land Revitalization <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/success/index.htm>

Recommended Reading

- Bell, A. C. and J. E. Dymont. 2008. **Grounds for Health: The Intersection of Green School Grounds and Health-promoting Schools.** *Environmental Education Research* 14:77-90.
- Feinstein, J. 2011. **Field Guide to Urban Wildlife: Common Animals of Cities and Suburbs--How They Adapt and Thrive.** Stackpole Books.
- Lee-Mader, Eric., Jennifer Hopwood, Lora Morandin, Mace Vaughan, and Scott H. Black. 2014. **Farming with Native Beneficial Insects: Ecological Pest Control Solutions** (The Xerces Society Guide). Storey Publishing.
- Louv, Richard. 2008. **Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-deficit Disorder.** Algonquin Books.
- Mader, Eric., Matthew Shepherd, Mace Vaughan, Scott. H. Black, and G. LeBuhn. 2011. **Attracting Native Pollinators: Protecting North America's Bees and Butterflies** (The Xerces Society Guide). Storey Publishing.
- Nabhan, Gary. 2008. **Renewing America's Food Traditions – Saving and Savoring the Continent's Most Endangered Foods.** Chelsea Green Publishing.
- Pipken, Whitney. 2015. **Urban Farmers Say It's Time They Got their Own Research Farms.** National Public Radio (The Salt: What's On Your Plate), May 18 <http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2015/05/18/407732692/urban-farmers-say-its-time-they-got-their-own-research-farms>.
- Stein, Sara. 1995. **Noah's Garden: Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Backyards.** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- Tallamy, Doug. 2009. **Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants.** Timber Press.

Acronyms, Abbreviations Spelled Out, & Other Details

1890s Land-Grant Universities Refers to the land-grant universities established to serve historically black communities (the Morrill Act of 1890). USDA offers grants specifically targeted for these institutions that continue to support historically underserved communities <http://go.usa.gov/3vgup>.

ACEP Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

AMA Agricultural Management Assistance

ARS Agricultural Research Service

CCAP Community Conservation Assistance Program (this is an NC SWCD partnership)

CIG Conservation Innovation Grant

CTA Conservation Technical Assistance

CRP Conservation Reserve Program

CSP Conservation Stewardship Program (not to be confused with the now defunct Conservation Security Program)

EQIP Environmental Quality Incentives Program

FSA Farm Services Agency (not to be confused with the Food Security Act of 1985, aka Farm Bill of 1985)

HFRP Healthy Forest Reserve Program

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

MOA Memorandum of Agreement

NIFA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

RC&D Resource Conservation & Development

RCPP Regional Conservation Partnership Program

SWCD Soil & Water Conservation District

USDA US Department of Agriculture

USFS US Forest Service

USFWS US Fish & Wildlife Service

WRP Wetlands Reserve Program (repealed in 2014 Farm Bill, now part of HFRP)

Xerces The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. We take our name from the Xerces blue butterfly, *Glaucopteryx xerces*, the first butterfly to go extinct due to habitat loss caused by people. Xerxes (where the "c" is replaced with an "x") is the English spelling of a few Persian and Armenian kings.

Note: This is a broad topic! If you have suggested resource links, would love to hear from you at nancy@xerces.org. I can update this again at a later date if I get many additional suggestions.