

Urban Tilth

The North Richmond Farm

323 Brookside Drive, Richmond CA 94801

July 2nd, 2018

GROWING FOOD & GROWING PEOPLE



Young Leaders in Our Community

The North Richmond Farm is dedicated to improving our community through the provision of healthy produce to local residents in West Contra Costa County. This 3-acre urban farm is an asset in our community. Urban Tilth has hired a strong team of young adults from North Richmond and Richmond, CA to maintain the daily activities on this land and their tireless efforts are manifested in the life in the soil and the yummy veggies that emerge from the farm. This team maintains our crops by planting, watering, weeding and harvesting, in our growing beds that now feed over 75 families every week. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of these young adults and members of the Richmond community, people power continues to move the Farm forward.



FROM UC SANTA CRUZ TO RICHMOND WITH LOVE

On June 20th, we were excited to host our annual farm work exchange with our partners at the Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems at UC Santa Cruz. For 3 years now the new apprentices learning at the fabulous 50 year old UC Santa Cruz farm have come to the North Richmond Farm to learn about what we do and help us develop our farm. This year they blessed our land by helping us expand the growing space at the farm. They built out 2 new, 50 ft long 4 ft wide farm beds! This will increase our growing area by 400 square feet! That's a lot of heirloom tomatoes. The Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems has an established 50 year old farm, where students share the same vision of advancing sustainable food and agriculture systems. The 50 UCSC Farm Apprentices who volunteered this year, helped move us forward weeks ahead in our schedule with just 3 hours of their collective time. We are so grateful for their service! But what's even better is that now our 40 Richmond Youth Apprentices will have the opportunity to journey down to Santa Cruz this summer and help out on the UCSC 50 year old farm, learning about their well developed systems and seeing a perfect example of what our farm can be in future. This learning exchange has been very exciting for us. We enjoyed a hot sunny day, prepped a 50 feet production row that is 4 feet wide, shared food, and stories amongst each other. Thank you for a lovely visit.

QUICK UPDATE!

Urban Tilth is proud to share our latest updates from the farm. In May we began a 6 month journey towards developing the new crop rows on the 2 acres of land we have been cleaning, testing and amending with nutrients and cover cropping over the past 2 years. In order to bring 4000 square feet of growing space into production we are launch our "Season of Service" Project where we will be hosting large volunteer groups who can help us building our new beds. This time next year, we should have 20 - 50 feet long, 4 feet wide nutrient rich crop rows available for growing more veggies, providing a larger harvest for our community.

In these times when the realities of drought and climate change are all around us, conserving water is a key concern. With summer upon us, we are happy to announce that we have just completed the installation of a new drip irrigation system in our 65 fruit tree Orchard. Now we can give our fruit trees what they need to grow the delicious fruit we love, while conserving water. We are very excited to see our days of manual watering coming to an end.

We are also excited to announce that we have completed the installation of our new walk-in cooler at the farm. So now when we can harvest our veggies when they are ready to harvest and store them at the proper temperature. This infrastructural improvement will end the need for us to harvest and distribute all of our produce in the same day.



Our Farm Manager in training, Tania Hammond. taniah@urbantilth.org

OUR 2018 SUMMER APPRENTICE PROGRAM BEGINS

Urban Tilth has hired 40 youth to learn about urban agriculture in our Summer Apprentice Program. This program educates and trains youth to become leaders in our community. The Summer Apprentice Program is a rare opportunity for West County youth to join a dynamic and positive group of their peers for a life changing summer of intensive urban agriculture training, community engagement, mind-opening field trips and paid summer employment.

During the course of this intensive 6-week program youth learn to work together to grow fresh, healthy organic food for our community while developing meaningful skills.

Come by Tuesday - Thursday 10am-1pm to meet our North Richmond Farm Summer Apprentices.



Summer Apprentice Program Staff Training

WHAT'S GROWING AT THE FARM?



Strawberry contest between our multiple gardens

We have started to plant more flowers, herbs and medicinal plants, tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, onions, carrots, potatoes, greens, and more.

TheOur herbs and medicinal plants will become ingredients in our handmade natural products such as soap, lip balm, honey, fruit jams and more. This Fall wWe

plan want to expand our Farm Stand by adding new products and offering new community workshops so anyone can learn to make these products themselves. Stay Tuned!

FOOD FOR ALL!

The food we grow at the North Richmond Farm is grown with love for this community. There are a number of ways you can get fresh healthy food from the North Richmond Farm. The easiest is to stop by on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday mornings between 10am - 1pm and volunteer with our farm crew, and then harvest what you want to bring home and enjoy with your family.

We also have a FREE Farm Stand Produce Giveaway every Tuesday in North Richmond. You can also support the farm and Urban Tilth's educational programs like the Summer Apprentice Program by becoming a member of the Farm to Table CSA produce box program. It's a great way to make a contribution while also receiving a delicious box of fresh veggies every week. Learn more about these opportunities to get fresh, healthy produce below.



Tuesday Free Farm Stand for local residents in North Richmond

FREE NORTH RICHMOND FARM STAND!

Join us every Tuesday, for our FREE produce giveaway in North Richmond. Come to the corner of Fred Jackson Way & Chesley Ave from 1pm until the veggies are gone. Come early and be the first to get farm fresh, delicious, free veggies!



JOIN THE FARM TO TABLE CSA!

Get a 10-lb box of delicious and nutritious, locally grown seasonal fruits and vegetables every week.

The Farm to Table CSA is Urban Tilth's youth and local resident-run social entrepreneurial venture providing boxes of fresh, locally-grown produce to West County residents at an affordable cost. You can sign up for weekly or bi-weekly service, pick-up or delivery. Funds raised help employ and train local youth and support our school and

community garden and farm programs. Our mission is to make sure FRESH, locally grown and organic produce is accessible to all West Contra Costa residents.

There are also opportunities to sponsor a low income family. [Sign up today!](#)

Visit our website for more information or to sign up for the Farm to Table CSA: www.urbantilth.org/csa

GET INVOLVED!



VOLUNTEER AT THE FARM

Upcoming 4th Saturday Community Build Volunteer Days:

- July 28th, 2018, 10am- 1pm
- August 25th, 2018, 10am- 1pm
- September 22nd, 10am -1pm

Don't miss out on our 4th Saturday Community Build Volunteer Days! Every month, on the 4th Saturday, you can volunteer at the farm and help us build out new areas of the farm and help grow food for our community.

JOIN THE FARM COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This year the North Richmond Farm will continue production and recruit more residents for our Community Advisory Committee for the farm. Want to be involved in the planning process?

COMMUNITY EVENTS AT THE FARM

The North Richmond Farm is planning to host new community events so that more people, especially families, can come out and enjoy this space. If you have an event idea we would love to hear it.

For more information about the Community Advisory Committee, event ideas, to host an event at the farm, to volunteer yourself or arrange a volunteer day for your community organization or company please Contact:
princess@urbantilth.org or
Taniah@urbantilth.org (Espanol) for more info!

SUPPORT THE NORTH RICHMOND FARM

Urban Tilth is continuing to raise funds to develop the North Richmond Farm.

Help grow the future we need to THRIVE. Consider making a 100% tax deductible donation to support the North Richmond Farm today.

You can make a contribution by visiting our website www.urbantilth.org or by sending a check to:

Urban Tilth
323 Brookside Dr
Richmond, CA 94801