

Urban Greenhouse Challenge #3



WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

**UNIVERSITY OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, URBAN SUSTAINABILITY
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



AGGIECULTURE

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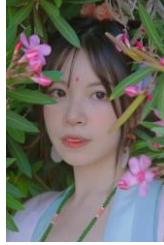
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We are semifinalists!
(Top 20 in the world)



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Current food system
trajectories are leading to
biodiversity loss, land and
aquatic ecosystem
degradation without
delivering food security and
nutrition, sustainable and
healthy livelihoods to many
- IPCC Report

(Steffen et al., 2015)

Why urban areas?

Consume 70% of the total food supply

Continuously growing

Are among the most at risk to climate change impacts
(especially low income)

Source: FAO, 2019b & UN, 2018



Why urban farming?

Improve ecosystem functions

Alleviate food shocks

Reduce food mileage

Divert organic wastes

Contribute to food security & sovereignty

Improve public health and lower healthcare costs

Create jobs and support local businesses

Help communities learn and grow together



Our goal

Design an innovative, sustainable, and inclusive urban food system to address food apartheid and create positive social impact in Ward 7, Washington DC

Selection objectives:

Provide year round sustainable food production

Provide attractive landmark for community

Impact social equity and inclusion



Ward 7

77,456 growing population

97% POC (91.5% black)

14.8% unemployment

\$50,130 median household income

21.5% families below poverty

1 grocery store

No means of self production

Highest rates of diet related diseases in DC

Source: <https://www.dchealthmatters.org/demographicdata>

Location of the East Capitol Urban Farm

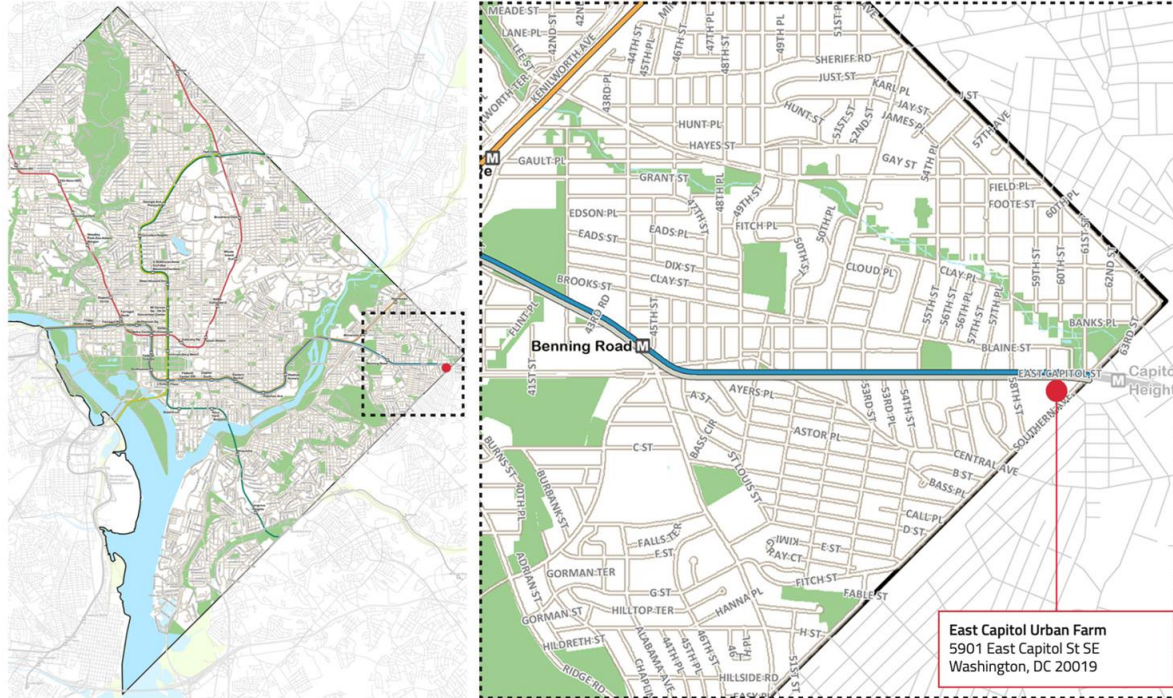



Figure 3. Location of East Capitol Urban Farm (red dot).

Government of the District of Columbia. (2018b, March 09). DC Street Map. Retrieved from [planning.dc.gov](https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/WebsitePDF_New_36x48_CityWide_StreetMap_75.pdf): https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/WebsitePDF_New_36x48_CityWide_StreetMap_75.pdf



Our Story

Living Gardens embodies a plant growing in symbiotic harmony with its ecosystem, stretching its roots and reaching its branches to meet the community's needs



Functions

Roots: community members, suppliers, and institutions

Leaves: aquaponic module network using repurposed shipping containers

Fruit branches: mobile grocery trucks, local businesses and institutions

Stem to trunk growth: phenotype expression from start up operational hub to flourishing community hub



Source: <http://www.ccearch.com/shipping-containers---physical-characteristics.html>

Contact

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Challenge website

<https://urbangreenhousechallenge.nl>



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