



Urban Agriculture Uses in the City of Guelph and the County of Wellington

**A Guide for Applicants to the GW Urban Agriculture
Challenge**

September 2020



City of Guelph Proposals

10C's Guelph-Wellington Urban Agriculture Challenge (GWUAC) is a call for projects, offering \$102,000 in funding to implement ideas and projects that will support circular economic recovery and accelerate food production, getting more food to the table with less environmental impact.

How to use this guide:

This guide outlines some of the key issues, definitions and rules that will apply to all urban agriculture projects located in the City of Guelph. If your proposed project is in the County of Wellington, please refer to page 4 of this guide.

After reading the applicant guide, consider the following questions:

- Where is your proposed project located? Who owns the land?
- What urban agriculture uses, or activities will your project entail?
- Have you confirmed a location for your proposed project? If so, determine what zone the property is located in by visiting the [City of Guelph Zoning Map](#). Determine if your proposed uses are allowed in the zone where you will be located. You can do this by searching the City of Guelph website or contact the City of Guelph's Building Services. Contact information is available below.
- Will you need to build anything to support your project? Will you require a building permit? Review the information pertaining to the Building code in this document and if you have further questions, the contact information for the City of Guelph Building Services is listed below.
- Are you planning to sell what you grow? If so, make sure you review what the [municipal business requirements are](#).

Questions or concerns? We understand that moving many of these projects forward will involve navigating municipal processes and we are here to help you. Short-listed projects that advance to Phase 2 of the application process will receive support to assess the practicality of projects on publicly owned land on a case-by-case basis.



For general grant inquiries, contact:

- 10C and Harvest Impact Julia Grady, julia@10carden.ca
- City of Guelph Smart Cities Office Ashlee Cooper, ashlee.cooper@guelph.ca

For zoning and building related inquiries, contact City of Guelph Building Services:

- 519-837-5615
- building@guelph.ca

Additional Planning and Building Information

Planning Applications

Proposed development applications will be reviewed for conformity with the Official Plan and Zoning By-law. Planning applications may be required if the proposed development does not meet current regulations. This could include a zoning bylaw amendment, or a minor variance granted by the Committee of Adjustment.

Additional information on the zoning by-law amendment process can be found online, [here](#).

Additional information on minor variances granted by the Committee of Adjustment can be found online, [here](#).

A Temporary Use By-law, authorizing the temporary use on a property for up to three years may also be considered depending on the proposed development.

Site Plan Approval

Proposed development may be subject to Site Plan approval. More information about this process can be found online, [here](#).

Ontario Building Code

If new buildings are proposed, they would require a building permit if they exceed 10m², or if they contain any plumbing. Buildings, including greenhouses, are required to be designed and constructed in accordance with the Ontario Building Code (OBC). More discussion may be required with Building Services regarding building permit requirements.



County of Wellington Proposals

Land use zoning in Wellington County is administered by the Planning and/or Building Department of your local municipality.

For specific **urban agriculture use** inquiries, please contact your municipal office:

Town of Erin: 519.855.4407

Town of Minto: 519.338.2511

Township of Centre Wellington: 519.846.9691

Guelph/Eramosa Township: 519.856.9951

Township of Mapleton: 519.638.3313

Township of Puslinch: 519.763.1226

Township of Wellington North: 519.848.3620

If you need additional help navigating municipal regulations, project team members at 10C and Our Food Future will support Guelph–Wellington Urban Agriculture Challenge (GWUAC) applicants by finding answers to general questions regarding municipal planning, zoning, building and other related municipal requirements during the idea generation phase of the project. Public Health, food safety and visitor safety must also be taken into consideration by all projects. Shortlisted applicants in each stream may also receive direct support and connection to municipal staff who can help clarify current regulations.