

Urban Agriculture Month #UAM2021

Care Farming and Gardening in the Climate Emergency

uaf.org.au/supporting-events/2021-urban-agriculture-month

Celebrating & raising awareness of Australia's growing urban agricultural movement.



From 1 to 30 April 2021, join us for the very first national **#UrbanAgricultureMonth**. The month will feature a range of self-generated events, from open gardens, workshops, guided tours, communal feasts, and other hands-on learning experiences.

To get #UAM2021 ready, read these guidelines for a quick overview of what UAM is all about. Then add the details of your event to the online form - your event will be featured on our events map soon ready to be shared far and wide.

Any questions? Contact Julia Pecoraro at uaf@sustainaustralia.org.

Who can get involved?

Urban Agriculture Month (UAM) is run by Sustain, a think and do network connecting passionate people like you to build tangible change. Anyone involved in urban agriculture is welcome to organise an event, whether individually or as a group, organisation or business. Just as diversity enriches our ecosystem, UAM is a time to celebrate our diverse urban agriculture community. If you are planning an event to promote a business, service or product, we ask that your event gives back to the community in some way (eg. providing an educational experience).

Why UAM2021?

The intensive burst of activity UAM generates will throw the spotlight on the innovative, diverse, and ever-evolving urban agriculture movement in Australia. Alongside **#UrbanAgricultureForum**, UAM will center around the theme: 'Care Farming and Gardening in the Climate Emergency'. This is all about urban agriculture as a tool for building resilience in the face of crisis, for people, the planet, and plants.

Participating in the month not only contributes to this wider conversation, but it will also bring media attention, local supporters, and new participants to your community. UAM aims to strengthen our existing networks and grow powerful connections, increasing support to those who need it through sharing and connecting.

How to get involved:

Urban Agriculture Forum: A two-day forum attracting over 200 policymakers, practitioners, innovators, and institutions in the urban agriculture sector. For more information visit: <https://uaf.org.au/>

Flagship Events: We have curated a number of flagship events with our partners, to showcase the range of events that UAM covers.

Host your own: We welcome you to hold your own event as a great way to promote urban agriculture in your community, form new collaborations, and grow together. This may be in person or online.

For example, you could:

- Host a meal using local produce
- Organise a forum with local experts, activators, and participants
- Hold a workshop on composting, caring for chickens, growing food at home, or communal gardening
- Organise a food swap or community feast in your community garden
- Take your event online with a gardening Q&A, interview or workshop
- Lead a garden tour or foraging walk
- Lead a fundraising event for you local community garden
- Promote your business by holding an educational session

All events will need to register on our online map. To do this, [register your details on our websites.](#)

**We will approve events as they are registered and be in touch if necessary.*

Join us online

Join the conversation with thousands of people around the country by tagging your (relevant) social media posts with #UrbanAgricultureMonth or #UAM2021.

COVID-19

We acknowledge that around Australia COVID restrictions continue in varying degrees - we ask that you keep this uncertainty in mind in your event planning and we will endeavor to support any transitions to online delivery.

Ticketing

It is up to you whether your event is free or paid, or if you use it as an opportunity to fundraise. You will need to organise this and we suggest using an online platform. For paid events, consider including a sliding scale to keep events accessible to all.

The bigger picture

UAM goes beyond these individual events, seeking to demonstrate the need and value of ongoing support to communities and organisations from local and state governments in the area of urban agriculture. Highlighted through our 2020 Pandemic Gardening survey, the links between access to urban agriculture, personal resilience and well-being was felt widely across our country during the pandemic. A major concern for many Australians was the urgency felt for changes to be made to our food system in the wake of climate changes. The scale and diversity shown by UAM will be a powerful message and demonstration of how we can address these concerns collectively, and the need for government to play their part in effecting change.

“People have realized how dependent and vulnerable we really are, and the importance of taking back some of the control over our food supply. It has also shown we are capable of making a significant change to the environment with our actions if we all work together”

“We have a window of opportunity here to advocate for a fairer and more sustainable society whether it be re-examining food production and supply chains through to work-life balance.”