

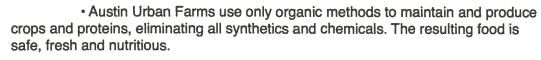
24 June 2013

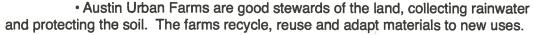
Members of the Sustainable Food Policy Board c/o Austin City Hall Austin, TX 78701



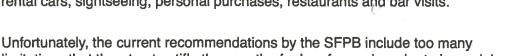
Dear Commissioners:

We appreciate the work done by the Sustainable Food Policy Board over the last few months on the issues pertaining to urban farms in Austin. As you know, the majority of Austin's urban farms are in or near East Austin, in the shadow of downtown, and are less than five acres. We have held ourselves to a high standard to be an integral part of the community, and do so by:





- Austin Urban Farms care about our community. The farms' hold regular markets, host school field trips, farm tours, supper clubs and fundraisers; all of which provide safe, healthy and educational community gathering points.
- Austin Urban Farms bring dollars to Austin through agritourism. Visitors that come from out of town to see the farms subsequently spend money on hotels, rental cars, sightseeing, personal purchases, restaurants and bar visits.



limitations that threaten to stifle the growth of urban farms. In order to keep doing what they do best -- farming and supporting our community -- Austin Urban Farms urges the City to make the following changes or additions to code:

- Allow sales and delivery (retail and wholesale) of eggs, produce and protein grown on the urban farms and/or on other land owned and farmed by the urban farmer without restrictive percentages.
- Allow the raising, processing and sales of animal protein: eggs, rabbits, fowl and fish (through aquaponics).
- Allow sales of local third party, agricultural associated, products including coffee, produce, meat, dairy, eggs, bakery goods, etc., without restrictions on amounts of products sold.
- Allow Austin Urban Farms to host events including nonprofit fundraisers, weddings, supper clubs, garden clubs and school groups. This provides both a vita I revenue stream and an important avenue for helping educate the community about our local farms.
- Allow more than one dwelling, as per current property zoning allows, for farm stays, bed and breakfast rentals and intern lodging.





SPRINGDALE FARM.

- Allow classes such as composting, gardening, cooking/canning, harvesting/processing protein and animal husbandry.
- Allow independent craftspeople, artisans, artists and musicians on farm stand days at the discretion of the farm.
 - Do not limit the number of employees Austin Urban Farms can hire.
 - Do not place a maximum or minimum acreage for an urban farm.

We respectfully ask for your consideration and support for our homes, our farms and our community.

Thank you for your continued support,

Dorsey Barger

HausBar Farm

Carol Ann Sayle

Boggy Creek Farm

Paula Foore

Springdale Farm

Stephanie Scherzer

Rain Lily Farm

Susan Hausmann

HausBar Farm

Glenn Foore Springdale Farm