

# FARMUR

Mark Teater  
Voice Over Script

The word farming refers to an area of land and its buildings that are used for growing crops and rearing animals.

An urban farm is simply a farm in an urban area.

The act of farming in cities is actually quite old. In fact, civilizations as old as Mesopotamia are known to have farmed within city limits.

This practice spread far and wide as people began settling into cities across the globe.

Cities began to store food [6000 BCE – Granary built in Mehrgarh for storage of excess food]. Aqueducts brought water into cities [691 BCE – First aqueduct (approx. 50 miles long) constructed to bring water to Nineveh.] The Arab empire spreads crops and new methods [700 AD – Arab Agricultural Revolution]. People adapt growing methods for new climates [1599 AD – First practical greenhouse is created]. New technology brings about familiar brands [1837 AD – John Deere invents steel plough].

Within the United States of America, the urban farm gained quite a lot of ground during WWI and WWII. With so many resources going to fighting the wars, people were encouraged to cut back and to step up to fill the gaps.

In order to support the food supply of the nation, people were encouraged to start a “Victory Garden” anywhere they could. This created an upsurge in urban farmers and produced amazing results.

After the war, America began advancing and growing at an incredible rate. The growing highway system began dividing the country into what we now think of as “urban” and “rural.”

As people spread out of cities and into suburbs, the needs for large amounts of food to be imported arose.

Food began to be imported from longer distances, and huge corporations began taking over the majority of farms. Farming in America has continued to be consolidated over the last 100 years, and we’re quickly losing our health and future to large monolithic companies that care more about profit than people.

Factory farming encourages: the spread of disease; loss of diversity in crops, damage to the environment and many more problems.

Fixing the mess created by industrial farming won’t be easy, but it starts in with people like

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you taking back the food supply. Yards are great starting points, but you can start with a window box, a balcony, and maybe one day an entire city block.

Urban farming provides healthy & fresh food to your area, community engagement & growth, local job opportunities, ecological improvements, and much more. Across the United States people have been rediscovering agriculture and the food system. In Detroit, MI, people are using urban farming to revitalize whole city blocks. People in cities like Oakland, Chicago, New York, and many others are joining the more than 800 million people worldwide who work in agriculture already.

One family can typically offset their produce needs by 30-40% by eating food from their own garden. Imagine the impact you can have by joining the growing community of urban farmers.

It all starts with a seed, and Farmur is here to help you get started today.