



FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

July 21, 2021

ADVISORY – TOMORROW – PHILADELPHIA – Secretary of Agriculture to Tour Philadelphia Urban Farms

Tomorrow, Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding will visit four urban agriculture operations in Philadelphia in continuation of the celebration of Pennsylvania's fourth annual Urban Ag Week.

The tours will feature gardens, farms, and orchards that have received PA Farm Bill Urban Agriculture Infrastructure grant funding and programs that work to fill gaps in the food system for those who live in areas affected by apartheid.

Representative Danilo Burgos, Representative Amen Brown, Representative Rick Krajewski, Representative Christopher Rabb, and Executive Director of the Governor's Advisory Commission on LGBTQ Affairs Rafael Alvarez Febo, and Commissioner Haniyyah Sharpe-Brown of the Governor's Advisory Commission on African American Affairs will join specific tours as detailed below.

DETAILS FOR MEDIA:

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Pinwheel Group

334 North Felton Street, Philadelphia PA 19139

About the Pinwheel Group: The Pinwheel Group's primary mission is to provide an academic, social, and career development initiative which offers a STEM based educational platform customized to engage marginalized urban youth. These interventions include Agri-Science, Agri-Business, and an introduction to hands on urban farming applications which engage and challenge youth to problem-solve current healthy food desert issues, while providing real access to fresh produce products. The Pinwheel Group received a 2021 Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Grant in the amount of \$27,500 for construction of a teaching garden at the Boys Latin Charter Middle School in Philadelphia.

Media: Opportunity for interviews and tour of teaching garden with opportunity for photos and b-roll. Representative Burgos, LGBTQ Commission Executive Director Rafael Alvarez Febo, and African American Affairs Commissioner Haniyyah Sharpe-Brown will also be in attendance.

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Public Farm

4300 Ave of the Republic, Philadelphia PA 19131

About the Philadelphia Parks & Rec Farm: Farm Philly supports over 60 urban agriculture projects on Philadelphia Parks & Recreation land including orchards, vegetable and fruit production, youth education gardens, inter-generational gardens, community gardens, and market farms. Philadelphia Parks & Recreation hosts 18 community gardens on park land. In 2019, the Philadelphia Parks & Recreation public farm at 4300 Ave of the Republic, grew and distributed over 2,000 pounds of fresh produce. The produce is distributed to the West Philadelphia Senior Community Center and Parkside Fresh Food Fest.

Media: Opportunity for interviews and tour of public gardens with opportunity for photos and b-roll. Representative Burgos, Representative Brown, Representative Rabb, and LGBTQ Commission Executive Director Rafael Alvarez Febo will also be in attendance.

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Philadelphia Orchard Project

40th St & Woodland Ave, Philadelphia PA 19104

About the Philadelphia Orchard Project (POP): POP is a nonprofit organization that plants and supports community orchards in the city of Philadelphia. In partnership with communities, we envision urban ecosystems that create beautiful green spaces, connect neighbors, provide hands-on learning experiences, and grow fresh fruit for generations to come. POP was a recipient of the 2020-2021 Pennsylvania Farm Bill's Urban Agriculture Grant Program and awarded \$25,000 for construction of the first high tunnels in Philadelphia devoted to growing fruit and perennial crops.

Media: Opportunity for interviews and tour of urban orchards with opportunity for photos and b-roll. Representative Burgos, Representative Rabb, and Representative Krajewski will also be in attendance.

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM Growing Home Gardens, Southeast Asian Mutual Assistance Assn. Coalition

742 Emily St, Philadelphia PA 19148

About Southeast Asian Mutual Assistance Association Coalition (SEAMAAC): Since 1984, SEAMAAC has brought crucially needed support to tens of thousands of families in the Greater Philadelphia area. The Growing Home Gardens afford newly arriving immigrant and refugees the opportunity to grow culturally relevant crops and root people in their new neighborhoods.

Media: Opportunity for interviews and tour of urban gardens with opportunity for photos and b-roll. Representative Burgos will also be in attendance.

RSVP: Please email shpowers@pa.gov if you would like to attend and specify location.

MEDIA CONTACT: Shannon Powers, shpowers@pa.gov

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