

Legal Basics of Urban Farming - Speakers

West Sacramento – April 6, 2018

Julia Van Soelen Kim - jvansoelen@ucanr.edu, (415) 473-2708

Julia Van Soelen Kim is the North Bay Food Systems Advisor serving Marin, Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma Counties. Julia holds a Master of Science in Community Development and a Master of Public Health, both from UC Davis. Her work at UC Cooperative Extension in the North Bay focuses on the viability, sustainability, and equity of regional food systems. Her efforts are directed at strengthening the connections between farmers and consumers by supporting the viability of small-scale and diversified agricultural production and expanding access to affordable local food. Julia regularly authors articles for [Grown in Marin News](#).

Christina Oatfield – Christina@theselc.org

Christina Oatfield is the Policy Director for the Sustainable Economies Law Center. She is a California state advocate for laws that enable more sustainable, local, and just economies. She has played leadership roles in support of California legislation to advance homemade food, urban agriculture, seed sharing, worker cooperatives, affordable housing land trusts, housing cooperatives, and local investing. Christina contributes to the Law Center's publications and educational events related to food law and grassroots finance (i.e. securities law). Christina is pursuing an attorney license through the Law Office Study Program of the State Bar of California, which is an alternative to law school for aspiring attorneys seeking experiential learning.

Mark Barcellos – barcellosm@saccounty.net

Mark Barcellos is a Supervising Environmental Specialist with the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department. He has been working in Environmental Health for 25 years in multiple counties and has been a supervisor with Sacramento County Environmental Health for the past 13 years. He has been involved with the creation of the Agricultural Tourism Code for Sacramento County as well as the Urban Farming ordinances for the City of Sacramento and the county.

Chris Flores - (916) 875-0538, florescj@saccounty.net

Chris Flores is currently serving as the Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer for the Sacramento County Agricultural, Weights and Measures Department. Prior to landing in Sacramento, she was the Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer for Nevada County and worked closely with the foothill farmers and agricultural organizations, to further unify the industry and promote their operations. Chris began her agricultural career in El Dorado County, where she gained invaluable experience working in all of the programs run by the Agricultural Department. She also collaborated with the Planning Department and the Executive Director of the Farm Bureau to re-write El Dorado County's Ranch Marketing Ordinance, to further support agri-tourism. Chris holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Environmental Studies with an emphasis in Natural Resource Management, from UC Santa Barbara. She lives in Placerville and has two sons and a daughter.

Sara Bernal - sara@landbasedlearning.org

Sara Bernal is the Program Manager for the West Sacramento Urban Farm Program, part of the Center for Land-Based Learning's CA Farm Academy. Sara started the West Sacramento Urban Farm Program in March 2014 and has spent the last four years building the program from the ground up. With over seven years of farming experience she manages both the program itself as well as farms at the newest location Riverfront Farm next to the Barn. Before working for Center for Land-Based Learning Sara owned and

operated a two acre farm that supported a 35 member CSA, sold to restaurants, supermarkets and farmers markets.

Paul Towers – ptowers@panna.org

Paul Towers is the Organizing Director & Policy Advocate at PAN North America, where supports state and federal policy efforts to build a more fair and green food and farming system. He also serves as Secretary of the Sacramento Food Policy Council, serves on the Advisory Board of the Sacramento Urban Ag Coalition, and co-coordinates both the California Food & Farming Network as well as the California Farmer Justice Collaborative. He helped found the effort CLUCK - campaign to legalize urban chicken-keeping - in Sacramento City in 2009 with his wife and was later involved in efforts to pass urban agriculture policies in the City and County of Sacramento.