



UC Cooperative Extension 2021 Local Policy Guide: Promoting Urban Agriculture in Marin

Urban agriculture includes production (beyond that which is strictly for home consumption or educational purposes), distribution and marketing of food and other products within the cores of metropolitan areas and at their edges. Examples include community, school, backyard, and rooftop gardens with a purpose extending beyond home consumption and education, urban market gardens, innovative food-production methods that maximize production in a small area, community supported agriculture based in urban areas, and family farms located in metropolitan greenbelts.¹

In addition to environmental and ecological impacts, urban agriculture includes key social, health, and economic impacts.²

- **Social Impacts**
 - Creating Safe Places/Reducing Blight
 - Access to Land
 - Community Development/Building Social Capital
 - Education and Youth Development Opportunities
 - Cross-Generational and Cultural Integration
- **Health Impacts**
 - Food Access and Security
 - Increased Fruit and Vegetable Consumption
 - Food and Health Literacy
 - General Well-Being (Mental Health and Physical Activity)
- **Economic Impacts**
 - Job Creation, Training and Business Incubation
 - Market Expansion for Farmers
 - Economic Savings on Food
 - Savings for Municipal Agencies
 - Increased Home Values

¹ UC Agriculture and Natural Resources website, Adapted from the American Planning Association, 2011

² Golden, 2013: The research-based benefits of urban ag are summarized below and can be found in the attached literature review or at <https://ucanr.edu/sites/UrbanAg/Research/>

With the myriad benefits are potential risks including unwanted noise, sanitation or food safety issues, and damage to the environment through poor management of the soil and animals. UCCE is committed to supporting urban agriculture, and our goal is to help community members by providing general guidelines and best practices on how to achieve agricultural success.

How to use this guide: This guide is intended to provide a high-level summary of the ordinances and requirements in various communities and jurisdictions across Marin. The county specific areas apply to unincorporated areas of the community and do not overlay or override the requirements in each city or town if that jurisdiction does not provide details on a specific topic. The guide serves two purposes – one is to provide a reference for community members interested in pursuing one of the agricultural practices. The second is to showcase the range of policies so that a town, agency, or community that is interested in adopting more specific ordinances (or loosening theirs to allow more personal agricultural activities) can see what other communities are doing.

Confirm with your local agency before acting: Ordinances and regulations change regularly. This guide was published at a point in time (August 2021) and is meant to provide a high-level reference as well as links for users to easily find the relevant additional resources needed to check the latest information. It provides summary level information only. Before making specific urban agricultural investments or significant changes to infrastructure, please be sure to check specific detailed local regulations as you embark on your urban agricultural projects. Recommendations focus on single- and multi-family dwelling situations and do not take into account specific zoning sub-areas within a community. Covenant or specific neighborhood/subdivision ordinances may be stricter than what is allowed within a city or town. Links to the ordinance information by town are included at the end of this document and users can typically easily search for keywords such as “chicken”, “livestock”, “agriculture” to find the most up to date specific details.

Permissive versus Prohibitive Zoning: There are two distinct types of zoning regulations within the county. Permissive zoning means: *No land shall be used for purposes other than permitted by this title for the district in which the land is located and No structure shall be erected or structurally altered except in conformity with the requirements for the district in which the structure is or is to be situated.* In this model, if the code is silent to a certain issue, it may be assumed to be not permitted. However, many of the activities around personal gardening, fruit trees, and grapes for personal use are things we would consider as accessory uses within the scope of a residential uses. These would be addressed differently if they were set up for commercial purposes. Prohibitive Zoning is the opposite of this and allows all uses not expressly prohibited.

In addition to the rules and regulations overview, UCCE has a series of informational materials on getting started with numerous agricultural pursuits. We have included the links and references we used to create the table first followed by the summary information.

Stay Current! Links to the Most Current Ordinance and Community Materials:

Ordinance links by city: Note that ordinances and regulations are often very specific to the type of dwelling or property so be sure to identify that in advance of your review. The summary tables focus on standard single- and multi-family zoning so check specifics if you are in a specially zoned area. Note that some neighborhoods and communities have specific requirements that may exceed those allowed within the city or town. Your local city hall is likely the best starting point if you have additional questions.

Ordinance links by Location	Location Links	Contact Phone Number	Date of Most Recent Code Update (per Ordinance Link) – may be more recent than ag research project results
Unincorporated Marin County	https://www.marincounty.org	Clerk of the Board Office 3501 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903 (415) 473-7331	MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA MUNICIPAL CODE Codified through Ordinance No. 3741, passed September 15, 2020. (Supp. No. 2020)
Belvedere	https://www.cityofbelvedere.org	City Clerk/Management Analyst 450 San Rafael Avenue Belvedere, CA 94920-2336 415-435-3838	
Corte Madera	https://www.townofcortemadera.org/	Town Hall Administration 300 Tamalpais Drive Corte Madera, CA 94925 415-927-5050	12/31/2020
Fairfax	https://www.townoffairfax.org/	Town of Fairfax 142 Bolinas Rd. 415-453-1584	Contains Supplement, including Local legislation through Ord. No. 852, passed 3-3-2021
Larkspur	https://www.ci.larkspur.ca.us/	City of Larkspur, CA 400 Magnolia Avenue Larkspur, CA 94939 415-927-5110	The Larkspur Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1052, passed February 3, 2021.
Mill Valley	https://www.cityofmillvalley.org/	City Clerk 26 Corte Madera Avenue Mill Valley, CA 94941 (415) 388-4033	Current through Ord. 1324 and the May 2021 code supplement.
Novato	https://www.novato.org/	City Administrative Offices 922 Machin Avenue Novato, CA 94945 (415) 899-8989	Codified through Ordinance No. 1668, passed February 23, 2021

Location (link to ordinance)	Location website	Contact Phone Number	Date of Most Recent Code Update (per Ordinance Link) – may be more recent than ag research project results
Ross	https://www.townofross.org/	31 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard Ross, CA 94957 (415) 453-1453	
San Anselmo	https://www.townofsananselmo.org/	525 San Anselmo Avenue San Anselmo, CA 94960 415-258-4600	Codified through Ordinance No. 1150, passed September 22, 2020
San Rafael	https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/	City of San Rafael-City Clerk 1400 Fifth Avenue San Rafael, CA 94901 415-485-3066	This supplement brings the Code up to date through Ordinance 1977, adopted November 18, 2019
Sausalito	https://www.sausalito.gov/	Sausalito City Hall 420 Litho Street Sausalito, CA 94965 (415) 289-4100	The Sausalito Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 1282, passed December 8, 2020
Tiburon	https://www.townoftiburon.org/	Tiburon Town Hall 1505 Tiburon Boulevard Tiburon, CA 94920 415-435-7373	Codified through Ordinance No. 589 N.S., passed September 2, 2020

Tables in this document provide summary information on the point in time allowances. The tables in some cases include the number of animals allowed with or without a permit, or distance required from the animal to other dwellings. The following color coding is used throughout the tables. Items in YELLOW are areas to review with caution because there are other use permits or details that you must comply with. Items in GREY are not outlined in the code specifically so may or may not be allowed.

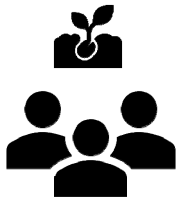
Allowed with the maximum number allowed noted	12
Requires a use permit if the quantity exceeds this number (or if no number, all situations would require a use permit) Use caution and check with the city before progressing.	Over 12
Not allowed	No
Not explicitly detailed in the ordinances (items in grey are not detailed and may or may not be allowed) Use caution and confirm with the jurisdiction in advance of progressing	No restrictions explicitly detailed in ordinances

Ordinance abbreviations: SF = single family; MF = multi-family Ag = Agricultural

More Complex Urban Agricultural Topics:

There are a series of topics that will require additional coordination with your city/jurisdiction. Please review specific allowances if you are considering adding:

- Ancillary structures to support your urban agricultural project
- Farm stands or structures to allow sales of produce
- Rain-water catchment systems
- Grey water plumbing systems




School and Community Gardens: Much of this document focuses on residential opportunities for urban agriculture, but School and Community Gardens as well as other collective projects are often a very effective and community beneficial way to implement urban agriculture. Marin County has over 150 community gardens that provide opportunities for community members as well as specific groups (school sites, faith-based sites, etc.) to grow collaboratively. Please see the UCCE publication on [A Garden for Everyone: Tales of Marin’s Community Gardens](#) for more information on and examples of the variety of gardens that can be found across the county. [UCCE’s school and community garden website](#) provides information on the range of gardens, ways to get support with a proposed garden, and a [map of garden sites](#).

Number of Community Gardens by Type	County		Cities											TOTALS
	Marin County General Residential	Marin County Mobile/Floating	Belvedere	Corte Madera (includes Greenbrae)	Fairfax	Larkspur	Mill Valley	Novato	Ross (includes Kentfield)	San Anselmo	San Rafael (SF and Other Residential)	Sausalito	Tiburon	
Existing Community Gardens	4				1	1	2			1	4			13
Demonstration Gardens	1						1	1	1	2	1		2	9
Faith-Based Gardens			1							2			1	4
Institutional Gardens	4					1	1	1			5			12
Residential (senior centers, apt complexes, or shared private sites)				1	3		2	2			5	1	1	15
School Gardens	9		1	5	5	4	9	17	3	6	25	3	4	91
TOTAL GARDENS	18		2	6	9	6	15	21	4	11	40	4	8	144



Food Production for personal consumption is permitted in all jurisdictions (though typically not explicitly stated) and urban growers are rather creative about setting up simple patio or deck solutions, raised beds for food production, front- and back-yard plots, common area gardens in larger units, and even shared community gardens in specified locations. Surplus food that a grower produces beyond their own use can find a welcome home at various food donation sites and pantries (links below). Communities typically require use permits for gardens that become a commercial enterprise. Individuals seeking to expand their personal garden should inquire with their city or community to obtain appropriate permits and align with other relevant regulations including (but not limited to) food safety, weights and measures, and business licensing.

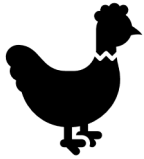
	County		Cities (SF and MF zoning – check ordinances if you are in another zoning types)											
	Marin County General Residential	Marin County Mobile/ Floating	Belvedere	Corte Madera	Fairfax	Larkspur	Mill Valley	Novato	Ross	San Anselmo	San Rafael (SF and Other Residential)	Sausalito	Tiburon	
Community food producers: GROWING food (sales and donations covered elsewhere)*	State law allows, unless prohibited by a local ordinance		No Agriculture Allowed	State law allows, unless prohibited by a local ordinance										
Food gardening for personal consumption														
Fruit tree allowances														
Grapes for personal wine production**	varies													

* Note: Community Food Producers is a state law (AB 1990/AB234 effective 1/1/2016) that allows, unless prohibited by a local ordinance, for community food producers or gleaners to sell or provide whole uncut fruits or vegetables and up to 15 dozen unrefrigerated shell eggs per month if they meet specific requirements. More details on the sale of product in the “Sale of Community Produced/Prepared Food” section.

https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=114376

** Marin’s VESCO – the Vineyard Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance applies based on sites meeting various conditions even for personal use. Contact the Marin Department of Agriculture for more information.

Legend:	Allowed: max noted	Specific local use permits and/or other requirements	Not allowed	Not detailed (may or may not be allowed)
---------	--------------------	--	-------------	--



Chickens have detailed allowances and conditions in many communities. The most common is a clear ban on roosters as a noise reduction consideration in dense communities. Ducks and other fowl often follow the same noise considerations as roosters. Chicken regulations often indicate the number of birds that are allowed without the residential owner obtaining a special use permit with larger flocks subject to permitting. Some specific neighborhoods (for example, Bel Marin Keys) do not allow chickens at all even though the town ordinances permit them. Several locations have restrictions on the distance that chickens must be kept from other dwellings or properties as well as distance from water sources. Many of these considerations are good practices even if not required in your community.

	County		Cities (SF and MF zoning – check ordinances if you are in another zoning types)													
	Marin County General Residential	Marin County Mobile/ Floating	Belvedere	Corte Madera (Parcel ≤5000 sqft)	Corte Madera (Parcel 5000 sqft – ½ acre)	Corte Madera (Parcel over ½ acre)	Fairfax	Larkspur	Mill Valley	Novato (allowances vary by zoning district)	Ross	San Anselmo	San Rafael (SF and Other Residential)	Sausalito	Tiburon	
Chickens allowed (no use permit) *	12	0	0	Up to 6	8	12	check		12	12+ varies		Up to 6	4	Any #	Any #	
Chicken use permit required	Over 12	0	No Agriculture Allowed	Up to 6	Over 8	Over 12				Over 12		7-12 with permission	Over 4	Any #	Any #	
Required distance from adj dwellings							25'	30'	40'	Lot line distance reqmts	50' (bldgs., roads)	25'				
Roosters allowed	No	No					No freq noise	No	No	No		No	Use Permit			
Other fowl allowed								No	No	Various rules			Use Permit	Use Permit	Any #	
Sale of eggs												Permit				
Animal sales							No									
Operating stand- ards required					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes		Yes			

* Always check your community/neighborhood regulations for recent changes or specific zoning district variations and communicate with neighbors in advance of agricultural changes

Legend:	Allowed: max noted	Specific local use permits and/or other requirements	Not allowed	Not detailed (may or may not be allowed)
----------------	---------------------------	---	--------------------	---



Beekeeping is typically not detailed in many ordinances, through some jurisdictions require permits and restrict the total number of hives or provide requirements around distance away from schools, parks, or playgrounds. Bees are critical for overall agricultural production, so they provide positive benefits for urban gardeners. There are many local associations that support beekeepers with resources and information as well as helping rescue bee swarms in a safe way so that they do not get exterminated.

	County		Cities (SF and MF zoning – check ordinances if you are in another zoning types)												
	Marin County General Residential	Marin County Mobile/ Floating	Belvedere	Corte Madera (Parcel <=5000 sqft)	Corte Madera (Parcel 5000 sqft – ½ acre)	Corte Madera (Parcel over ½ acre)	Fairfax	Larkspur	Mill Valley	Novato	Ross	San Anselmo	San Rafael (SF and Other Residential)	Sausalito	Tiburon
Beekeeping			0	2	2	4	check			0 ordinance being considered				3 (300' from school, park)	
Operating standards required				Yes	Yes	Yes								Yes	

Legend:	Allowed: max noted	Specific local use permits and/or other requirements	Not allowed	Not detailed (may or may not be allowed)
---------	--------------------	--	-------------	--







Other livestock and animal keeping: animals are typically grouped into small and large in the various ordinances with specific animals identified by species in some cases (and thus included here). There are special allowances in some areas for using goats or sheep for vegetation management (particularly as a short-term project). Several of the locations allow larger animals with a use permit but may require additional restrictions around location or lot size so be sure to check in advance. All the indications here are for general personal use livestock. Because the use permit requirements will vary by zoning, be sure to check the allowances in your area. Many locations specifically prohibit raising animals for sale.

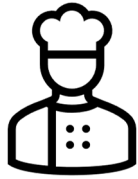
	County			Cities (SF and MF zoning – check ordinances if you are in another zoning types)											
	Marin County General Residential	Marin County Residential Planned	Marin County Mobile/ Floating	Belvedere	Corte Madera	Fairfax	Larkspur	Mill Valley	Novato (allowances vary by zoning district)	Ross	San Anselmo	San Rafael (SF and Other Residential)	Sausalito	Tiburon	
Horses	0	On 3+ acres	0	No Agriculture Allowed		3 (1/20K sqft)	2 (2+ acre)		1/20k sqft; 20' setback	50' or use permit			Any #		
Dairy Cows	0	3+ acres	0			On 5+ ac	0	Unless pre-1943	1/20k sqft; 20' setback	50' or use permit				Any #	
Beef Cows	0	3+ acres	0			3 (1/20K sqft)	0	Unless pre-1943	1/20k sqft; 20' setback	50' or use permit				Any #	
Donkeys Mules	0	3+ acres	0			3 (1/20K sqft)	2 (2+ acre)		1/20k sqft; 20' setback	50' or use permit				Any #	
Llamas	0	0	0			3 (1/20K sqft)	0		1/20k sqft; 20' setback					Any #	
Goats	0	0	0			6 (3/20K sqft)	0	Fire clearing	1/20k sqft; 20' setback	50' or use permit			Any #	Any #	

Legend:	Allowed: max noted	Specific local use permits and/or other requirements	Not allowed	Not detailed (may or may not be allowed)
---------	--------------------	--	-------------	--

Other livestock and animal keeping (continued):

	County			Cities (SF and MF zoning – check ordinances if you are in another zoning types)											
	Marin County General Residential	Marin County Residential Planned	Marin County Mobile/ Floating	Belvedere	Corte Madera	Fairfax	Larkspur	Mill Valley	Novato (allowances vary by zoning district)	Ross	San Anselmo	San Rafael (SF and Other Residential)	Sausalito	Tiburon	
 Sheep	0	0	0					Fire clearing	1/20k sqft; 20' setback			Any #	Any #		
 Pigs (sm/potbelly)	0		0						5			4			
 Swine/Hogs	0	0	0						1/40k sqft (min lot 80k); 20' setback						
Exotic Animals	Use permit														
 Rabbits	12	12	12						6 (40' setback)	12			0	0	
Rabbits – use permit	Over 12	Over 12	Over 12							Over 12			Any #	Any #	
Animal sales							No								

Legend:	Allowed: max noted	Specific local use permits and/or other requirements	Not allowed	Not detailed (may or may not be allowed)
---------	--------------------	--	-------------	--



Sale of Community Produced/Prepared Food: California laws have recently changed some of the food preparation and sharing allowances, making it easier to prepare certain (limited) products from fresh produce in your home or through a small community or commercial kitchen. These requirements are meant to provide opportunities for individuals to prepare and sell various products as long as they continue to comply with appropriate food safety, business operations, and labeling requirements. While these opportunities may exist at the state level, they have not been specifically adopted or promoted in many of the Marin jurisdictions and in some cases the existing city ordinance may in fact be stricter than the state law.

	County		Cities (SF and MF zoning – check ordinances if you are in another zoning types)										
	Marin County General Residential	Marin County Mobile/ Floating	Belvedere	Corte Madera	Fairfax	Larkspur	Mill Valley	Novato	Ross	San Anselmo	San Rafael (SF and Other Residential)	Sausalito	Tiburon
Community food producers: SALE of grown, gleaned food*	State law (AB 1990/AB234 effective as of 1/1/2016) allows, unless prohibited by a local ordinance, for community food producers or gleaners to sell or provide produce/eggs if they meet specific requirements												
	Permit needed in RA zoned, prohibited elsewhere												
Cottage food operations (CFOs)	Various permits are required by jurisdiction (Health Department, Home Occupation, Business Licensing)												
Micro-enterprise home kitchens (MEHKOs)	State law passed, but has to be adopted locally by the county and every municipality. If enacted across Marin, MEHKOs would require permits.												

Legend:	Allowed: max noted	Specific local use permits and/or other requirements	Not allowed	Not detailed (may or may not be allowed)
----------------	---------------------------	---	--------------------	---

Definitions:

- **Cottage food operations (CFOs):** CFOs are allowed under California AB1616 (adopted Jan 2013) to prepare and/or package certain non-potentially hazardous foods in private-home kitchens referred to as “cottage food operations”. CFOs must meet specific requirements pursuant to the CA Health and Safety Code related to preparation, training, sanitation, compliant labeling and operating within established sales limits (\$50K annual gross as of 2015). All CFOs must be registered or permitted by the local environmental health agency before starting business. Registration operates on a tiered system based on sales volume and/or distribution model (direct or indirect). There is a limited list of approved CFO products, all shelf stable. CFO allowances were adopted in Marin County except where more restrictive city code/ordinances apply.
- **Micro-enterprise home kitchens (MEHKOs):** California AB626 (Sept 2018) established MEHKOs as a new legal entity permitted to operate a “restaurant” in their private residence with certain restrictions and limitations. All MEHKOs must register with their local environmental health agency, adhere to health codes, and possibly have their kitchen approved. MEHKO allowances need to be proactively adopted county wide in order for any allowance. Marin County has not adopted this law.
- **Community Food Producers:** A community food producer is defined as a producer of agricultural products on land that is not zoned for agricultural use but is otherwise in compliance with applicable local land use and zoning restrictions, including, but not limited to, restrictions governing personal gardens, community gardens, school gardens, and culinary gardens. State law (AB 1990/AB234 effective as of 1/1/2016) that allows, unless prohibited by a local ordinance, for **community food producers or gleaners to sell or provide whole uncut fruits or vegetables and up to 15 dozen unrefrigerated shell eggs per month if they meet specific requirements.** Community food producers may sell directly to the public, to a permitted food facility, a Cottage Good Operator, or they may donate to a food bank or food kitchen. A gleaner may only sell directly to the public or donate to a food bank or food kitchen. While the law does not require routine inspections, it authorizes an enforcement officer to inspect the operations of a Community Food Producer or Gleaner in response to a food safety recall or food safety complaint and take appropriate follow up action. Community Food Producers and Gleaners must be in compliance with applicable local land use and zoning restrictions and use best management practices as described in the “Food Safety Guidelines for Small Farms” document ([CDFA - SPI - Small Farm Food Safety Guidelines \(ca.gov\)](https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/P080101.aspx)). In Unincorporated Marin county, Title 22, Article II, Zoning Districts and Land Uses indicates that Ag products produced on site are only allowed with a Use Permit in the RA (Residential Agriculture) zoning district and prohibited in other general residential zones.
- **California Neighborhood Food Act (AB2561):** This act was passed in 2014 and its goals are to remove the barriers that renters and members of homeowners associations (HOAs) face when trying to grow food for themselves at home. The law ensures that landlords and HOAs cannot prohibit people in certain kinds of housing from growing food in their backyards for personal consumption. The law was meant to address situations where the rental or HOA agreement expressly prohibited growing food in yard space.
- **Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act (AB551):** This act was passed in 2014 to allow landowners in metropolitan areas to receive tax incentives for putting land in agricultural use. First, cities and counties must create urban agriculture incentive zones. San Francisco became the first city in California to establish an urban agriculture incentive zone in August 2014. This gives owners of vacant property within San Francisco a mechanism to apply for property tax reduction in exchange for committing their land to urban agricultural use for at least five years.



Irrigation: 2021 brought with it historically low water levels across the county and most of the Western United States. Reservoirs are at extremely low levels and the

local water agencies are all working on promoting or mandating water conservation. Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) which covers the bulk of the county’s water supply, has instituted mandatory water reductions. Other agencies are also taking local actions. Agricultural producers across the region are having to change their practices to adapt to the conditions and many are having to truck in water to operate. While the UC Cooperative Extension heavily promotes urban agriculture, all actions must keep water conservation needs and requirements in mind. Please check resources closely to make sure you are following local regulations, which are changing periodically. Install water reducing equipment such as drip irrigation and low flow devices to make sure any watering is done as efficiently as possible. Layer compost and mulch on plants to maintain soil moisture and be sure to follow guidelines on plant care as well as plant selection to make sure you avoid heavy water requirements, especially for newly planted and not yet established plantings.

< [Your Water](#)

Water Conservation

- Dealing with Drought Conditions
- Water Rules**
- Rebates and Programs
- Landscape Plan Review
- Gardening Resources

Water Quality

Water Supply

For Businesses

Water Watch

MMWD’s spring 2021 information on water rules:

<https://www.marinwater.org/water-conservation>



With reservoirs at historic lows, Marin Water’s board of directors declared a water shortage emergency and adopted new mandatory water use restrictions on April 20 to help preserve our water supply. The goal of the mandatory restrictions is to achieve a 40 percent reduction in water use districtwide.

Water Use Restrictions

- Limit spray irrigation to no more than two days per week.
- Limit drip irrigation to no more than three days per week.
- Covers are required for all pools and spas to reduce evaporation.
- Do not wash vehicles at home. If you need to wash it, use a carwash that recycles water.
- No power washing homes or businesses.
- Do not wash driveways or sidewalks.
- Do not water outdoors between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- Do not waste water. Flooding gutters is prohibited.
- Leaks must be fixed within 48 hours of being discovered.
- Garden hoses must have a shutoff nozzle.
- Beginning May 20, golf course irrigation is restricted to greens and tees.
- No watering grass on public medians.
- No using potable water for dust control, sewer flushing or street cleaning.
- No refilling or topping off decorative fountains.

Education and Enforcement

Contact Info

Water Conservation
Ph: 415.945.1520
[Email](#)

Quick Links

- [Report Water Waste](#)
- [New Water Restrictions Mailer](#)
- [New Water Use Restrictions and Conservation Tips](#)
- [Nuevas Restricciones de Agua y Consejos de Conservación](#)
- [List of Carwashes Using Recycled Water](#)
- [Ordinance No. 449](#)
- [Ordinance No. 450](#)

UC Cooperative Extension drought information: http://growninmarin.org/For_Farmers_and_Ranchers/Water_221/Drought_Management/

A few interesting historical references:

Marin has a long and well-respected history as an agricultural community. While much of our county is now urban and seems removed from the days of dairy farming and agricultural production, there are still many communities in the county that continue those important historical pursuits. There are also remaining ordinances that relate to those historic practices. UC Cooperative Extension not only promotes optimizing our land in ways that produce food, protect our soils, and support bio-diversity, but also provides numerous resources on the historical agricultural practices in Marin and their importance in the development of communities, preservation of land, and ongoing maintenance of many of the continued agricultural activities that remain.

[Resources on the History of Agriculture in Marin](#) (numerous resources at <http://growninmarin.org>)

[Map of Historical Dairies in Marin](#) (Marin Free Library Anne T Kent California Room resource)

Remaining ordinances that relate to our agricultural past:

Unaccompanied Livestock on Certain Highways Prohibited. It is unlawful for any person controlling the possession of any livestock to voluntarily or negligently permit any such livestock to stray upon or remain unaccompanied by a person in charge or control thereof upon a public highway, both sides of which are adjoined by property which is separated from such highway by a wall, hedge, sidewalk, curb, lawn or building. (Ord. 1030 § 2(6), 2018; Ord. 924 § 2, 2003) [County, but also referenced in several city ordinances as well]

Nighttime Herding on Highways Regulated. It is unlawful for any person to drive any such livestock upon, over or across any public highway between the hours of sunset and sunrise without keeping a sufficient number of herders on continual duty to open the road so as to permit the passage of vehicles. (Ord. 1030 § 2(6), 2018; Ord. 924 § 2, 2003) [County, but also referenced in several city ordinances as well]

Mill Valley Dairy or Beef Cows: From and after July 1, 1943, it shall be unlawful for any person to construct, operate or maintain or to permit to be constructed, operated or maintained upon any premises within the City any cow, dairy, stockyards, or apiary, and the keeping of any thereof from and after said date upon any premises within the City shall be and the same is hereby declared to be a nuisance. (Ord. 317; Ord. 987, February 16, 1982) [Mill Valley]

Marin County Links:

[Marin County Department of Agriculture](#): The Marin County Department of Agriculture operates under the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR). The department strives to promote and protect agriculture, the environment, and the residents of Marin County.

[HEAL Collaborative](#): Marin HEAL is a Collective Impact initiative that convenes healthy eating active living stakeholders from many sectors across Marin County.

[Marin Community Gardens | County of Marin Open Data Portal \(marincounty.org\)](#)

UCCE Agricultural Links:

[UCCE](#) – University of California Cooperative Extension provides a wide range of resources across California that support a wide range of Agricultural and Natural Resource topics

[UC Master Gardeners](#) – educational resources relevant for the current growing season as well as numerous print, video, and training resources on gardening in Marin. The site also includes frequently asked questions and ways to get feedback from a Master Gardener. The Master Gardener program is supported by a strong network of local volunteers.

[Grown in Marin](#) – dedicated to Marin’s agricultural industry, with information & resources for both producers and the general public. For example, this site has 2021 information on water and drought management

[Marin Food Policy Council](#) – The Marin Food Policy Council (MFPC) was founded to address issues connected to food production, access, distribution, and nutritional health. The Council brings together the local food system stakeholders in a roundtable format that allows for information exchange, resource identification, and prioritization of needs. It examines the health, sustainability, and quality of life of Marin residents through the lens of community food security and develops targeted policies and practical solutions based on a systems approach to solving food access issues.

Methods:

The initial code review for this project was performed in 2019 with the assistance of UCCE interns. In April, 2021, UCCE did a follow up review of specific agricultural requirements and in June, 2021 provided all draft materials to each of the jurisdictions for their review. UCCE will host a “soft launch” review with various cities and broader communities to gather input before publishing these materials on their website and promoting the new resource.

Prepared by UC Cooperative Extension Marin Team Members: Julia Van Soelen Kim, Samie Blasingame, Wendy Tobiasson