

Application for Dudley Greenhouse Space: Spring Seedling Production

DUE DATE: January 12, 2018. Groups will be notified by January 19 and groups can begin seedling production any time after March 3.

About the Dudley Greenhouse

The Dudley Greenhouse is a 10,000 square-foot facility in the Dudley neighborhood of Roxbury. Owned by the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI) and leased by The Food Project (TFP), the greenhouse operates year round as a food production and educational space. The Food Project staff manage production and work in partnership with community members and organizations to run programming at the greenhouse. The Dudley Greenhouse Advisory Committee (GAC) is a community advisory group that works with The Food Project (TFP) staff to ensure that the Dudley Greenhouse operates in accordance with the vision, values and purpose for which it is intended. Each year we seek out community partners to run greenhouse/gardening programs that benefit residents of our nearby communities—Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan. In particular, we seek opportunities to support Dudley residents and organizations serving the Dudley Community.

Criteria to Apply for Seedling Production Space

We are currently accepting applications from groups interested in growing seedlings for use in gardening projects.

Eligible gardening projects will:

- 1) Be located in Dorchester, Roxbury, or Mattapan

AND either:

- 2) Have educational component(s): e.g. schools or community groups growing seedlings to support community-based projects with educational goals

or

- 3) Have community-strengthening component(s): e.g. groups that grow food for the purpose of community-building and/or increasing healthy food access for marginalized groups

Unfortunately, we do not have the capacity to provide space for individuals looking to grow seedlings for personal use. We invite all folks seeking organic seedlings for their garden to join us at our annual seedling sale, City Farm Fest on May 12, 2018.



While we are committed to ensuring that the space is used primarily for supporting not-for-profit enterprises, we may have space to rent to farmers and small-scale growers. Please contact Danielle Andrews to discuss this possibility.

The Food Project will Provide Accepted Groups with:

- 1) Bench space for seedling trays in a heated greenhouse
- 2) Technical support from Dudley Greenhouse Manager, Danielle Andrews, to develop a seedling production plan and schedule
- 3) Daily maintenance of the plants (i.e. watering and monitoring for pests and disease)
- 4) Access to soil and trays at wholesale prices

Responsibilities for Accepted Groups

- 1) We ask that groups pay for a minimum of the cost of the organic potting soil and trays from the Dudley Greenhouse. We will be purchasing these materials in bulk and selling them to participants, at cost.

One seedling tray: \$2.50 for soil
+ \$2.50 for plastic tray (including webbed bottom support)
= \$5/seedling tray

If groups have the means to contribute to the cost of production (including daily watering, heating and cooling of the space), the fiscal support is appreciated. We estimate the cost of watering, heating and cooling each tray to be about \$6.

- 2) Seeds
- 3) Labor for seeding the trays.
- 4) Periodic care (i.e. thinning and re-potting if necessary—tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant) of their seedlings, with assistance from greenhouse manager. Because this is a shared space, groups will need to coordinate regularly with greenhouse staff, who will monitor plants for pest and disease issues and guide greenhouse tenants on care of the plants.
- 5) Meeting with the Dudley Greenhouse Manager to go over supplies and seedling plan prior to starting their seedlings.
- 6) Submitting a letter at the end of the growing season explaining how the seedlings were used and how they contributed to the group's project.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Danielle Andrews: 617-442-1322 x13, dandrews@thefoodproject.org.





Application

Name of group: _____

Name of applicant: _____

Applicant phone number: _____

Applicant email: _____

Applicant address: _____

Note: Answers to the following questions should be a maximum of two pages, double-spaced.

- 1) Please provide a brief description of your gardening project. Be sure to explain how your project meets the criteria listed above (location + educational and/or community-building aspects).
- 2) If you used space in the Dudley Greenhouse last year, please describe how you used the seedlings that you grew there. Do you anticipate any changes in how your seedlings will be used this year?
- 3) Approximately how many trays of seedlings do you anticipate wanting to grow? (**Note:** We have space for a total of 300 trays and we expect to be supporting multiple projects. There will likely be a cap on the # of trays a single group can grow. That cap is dependent on the applications received.)
- 4) Who will be involved in the process of growing the seedlings (e.g. one contact person, a group, students, etc.)?

Please email completed applications to Danielle Andrews
(dandrews@thefoodproject.org) by 5 P.M. FRIDAY JANUARY 13, 2018.

