

A Proposal for Urban Farming in Washington, D.C

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Proposal Objectives

(Location: Washington, D.C.)

- ▶ To provide screening method and design for **Urban Farming** to convert vacant properties to a valuable enhancement for the community.
- ▶ To promote various key benefits of urban farming.

Outline

- ▶ Urban Farming in Washington, DC
- ▶ Benefits and challenges
- ▶ Design Criteria for Selection of Urban Farming
- ▶ Selection of Vacant Properties
- ▶ Screening of Vacant Properties
- ▶ Top Five Recommendations for Urban Farming
- ▶ Limitations
- ▶ Summary

Something you might want to know!

Food remains the second highest cost of living for U.S. households with averages of \$6100 being spent on food per year

Operating costs for an urban farm less than a half- acre, with gross revenue of \$60,000, are estimated at \$5,000- 10,000 per year

Urban agriculture can yield up to \$500-\$2,000 worth of produce per family per year (5 individuals).

Urban Farming



<http://foodtank.com/news/2014/02/capital-city-farming-10-urban-agriculture-projects-in-washington-dc>

Benefits

Advance your neighborhood, Develop Washington, D.C.

Environmental
Benefits

Lowering Cost of
Food for
Consumers

Social and Public
Health

Economic Benefits

Urban Farming in Washington, D.C.

Legislation :

DC Urban Agriculture and Food Security Act of 2014

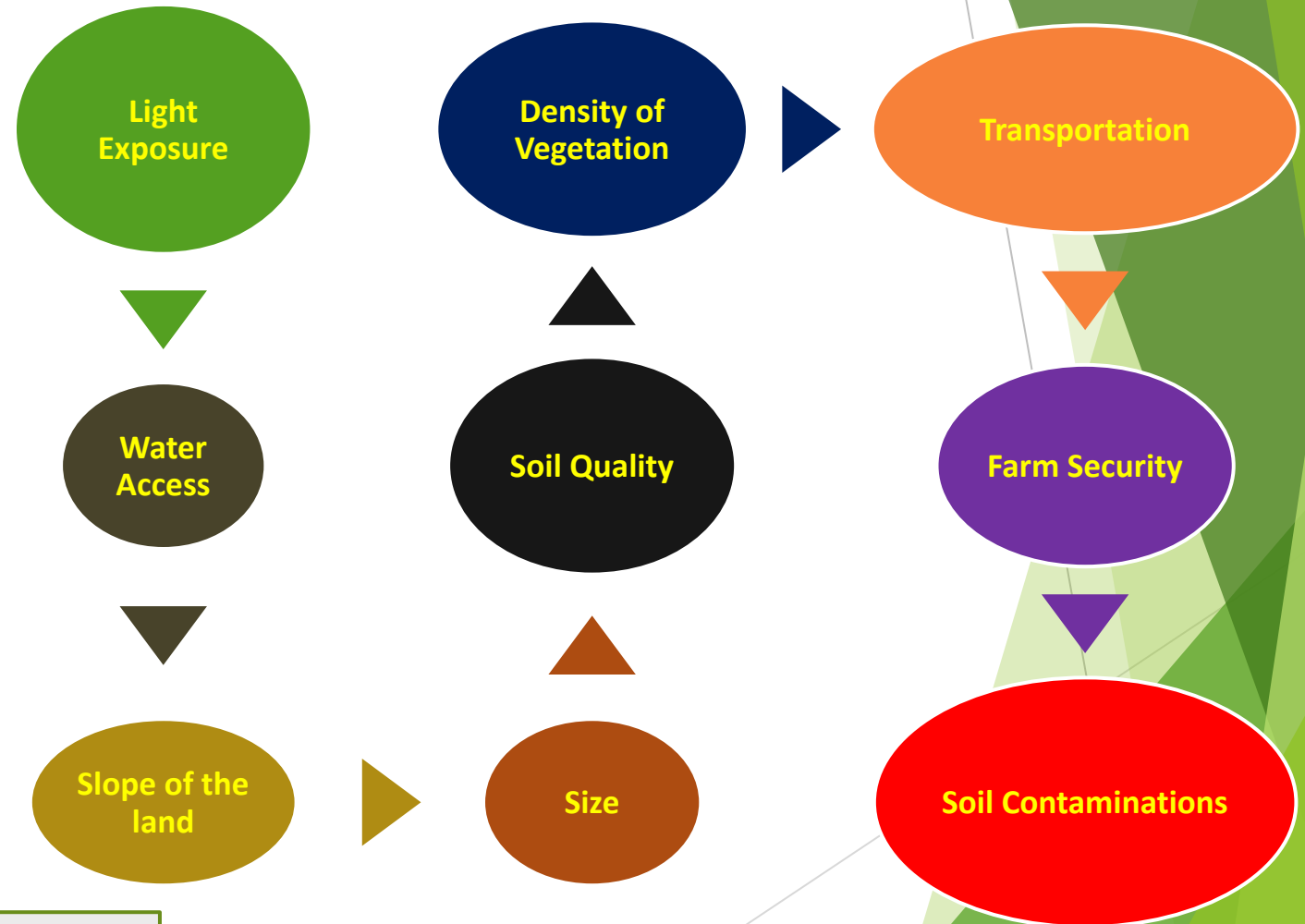
Vacant city-owned properties :

minimum three-year urban agriculture lease.

Easy and affordable access to
fresh fruits and produces

Design criteria for use of potential land for Urban farming

1. 8-10 hours of light exposure
2. Rain water Harvesting
3. Slope of land less than 20%
4. Size decides profits
5. Soil quality
6. Low cost of cleaning
7. Well connected transportation
8. Lower theft or crime rate
9. Low soil contamination

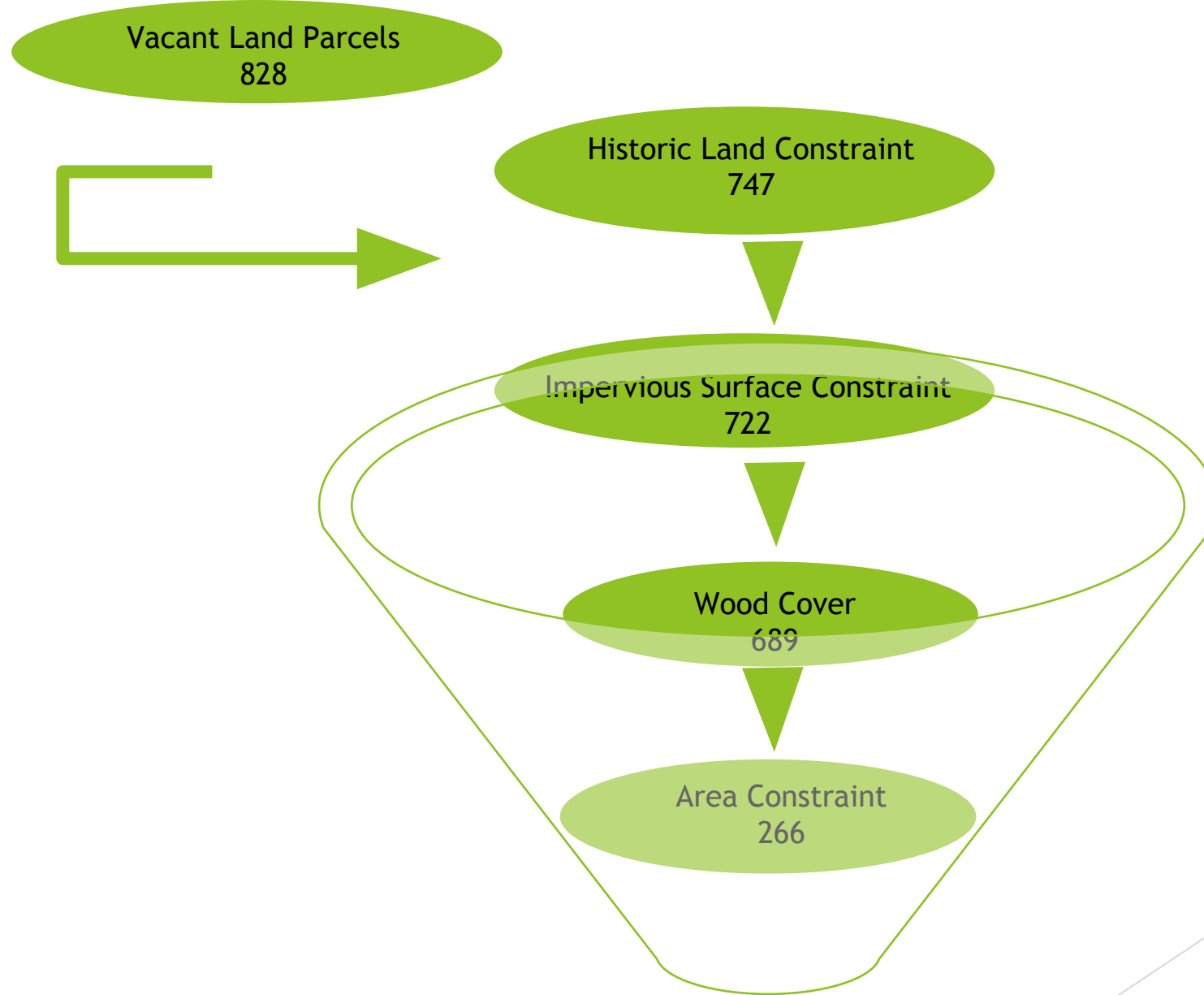


Public Hearings and Awareness

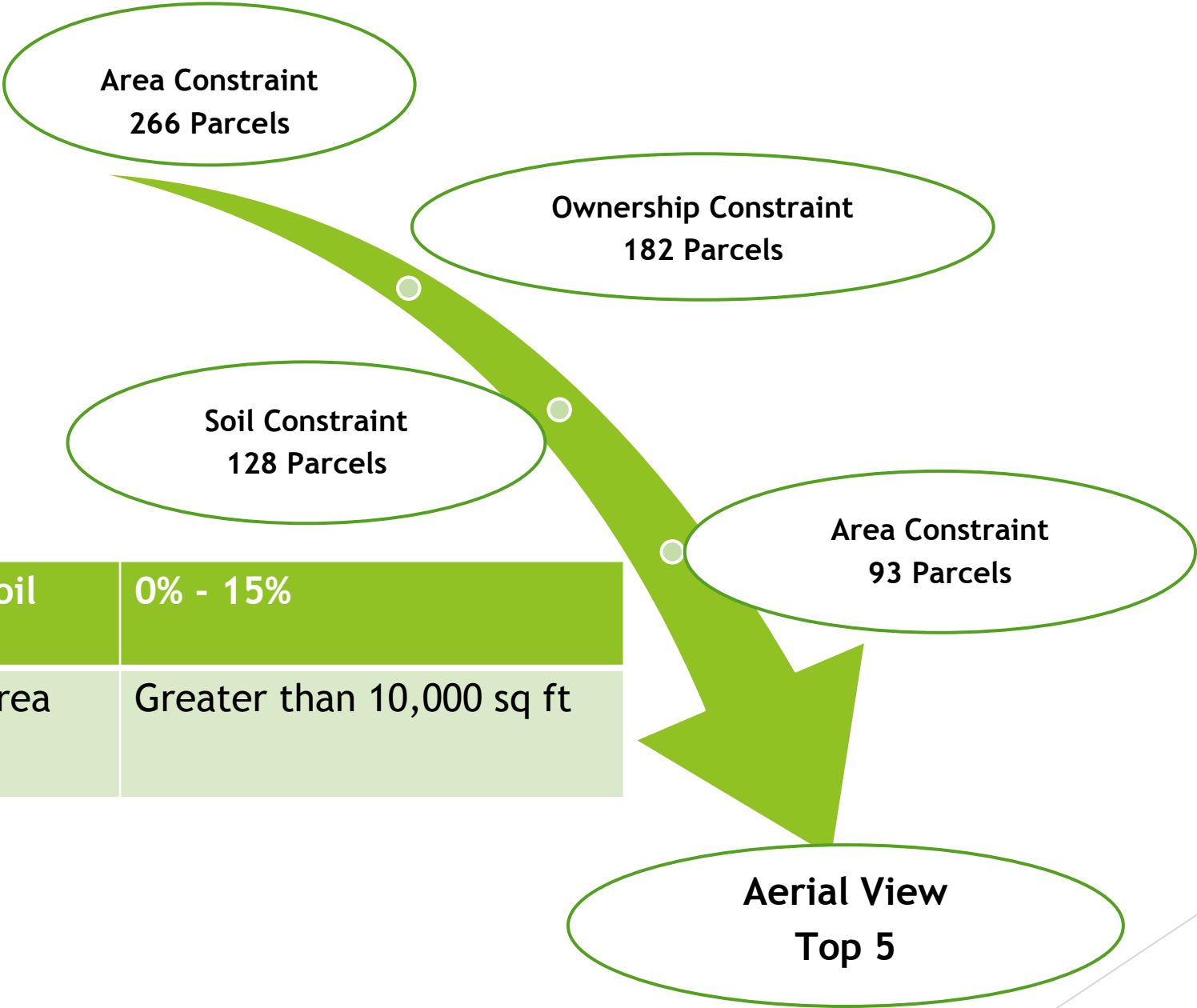
Screening Process

Assumption: Vacant land means no buildings on them

Screening Process

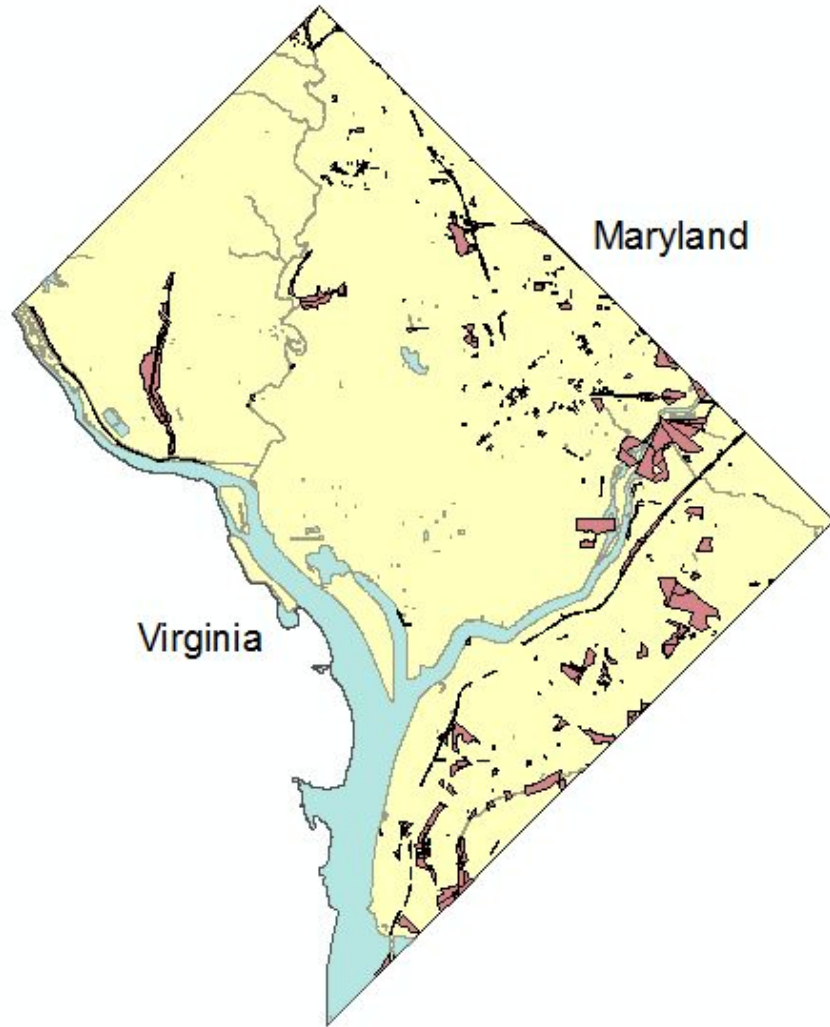


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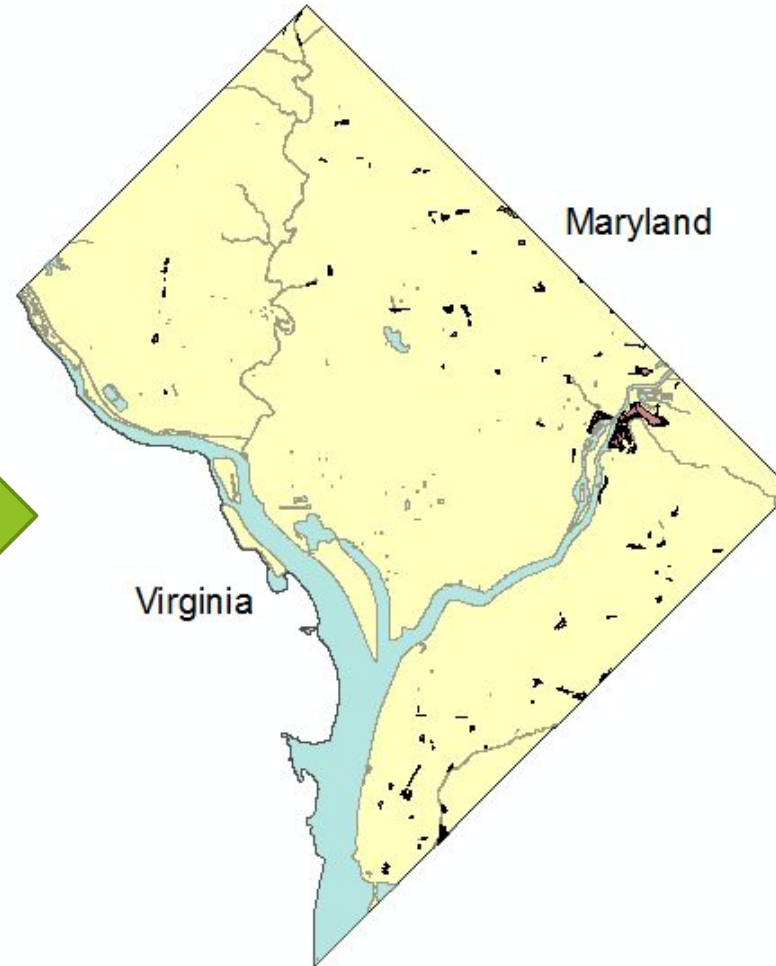


Potential Vacant Parcel for Urban Farming

828 Vacant Parcels



93 Vacant Parcels For Urban Farming



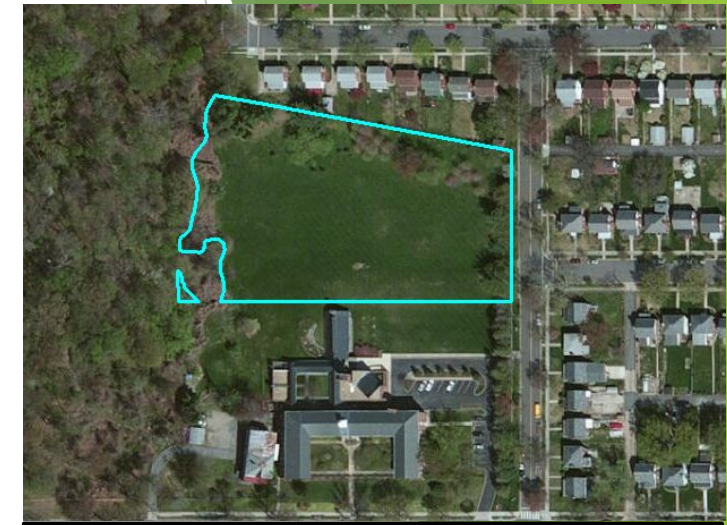
Top Five Recommendations



Area -186,680 sqft
Slope - 8% -15% (majority)
Soil - Urban land type



Area -690,418 sqft
Slope - 8% -15% (majority)
Soil - Galestown and Rumford type



Area -113,307 sqft
Slope - 0% -8% (majority)
Soil - Matapeake silt loam and
keyport fine sandy loam type



Area -38,283
sqft
Slope - 8% -15%
(majority)
Soil - Urban
land type



Area -80,484 sqft
Slope - 0% -8%
Soil - Galestown type

Limitations & implementation

Limitations of screening process

- ▶ Sampling of soil and land
- ▶ Public hearing
- ▶ Crime rate
- ▶ Effect of tall Buildings

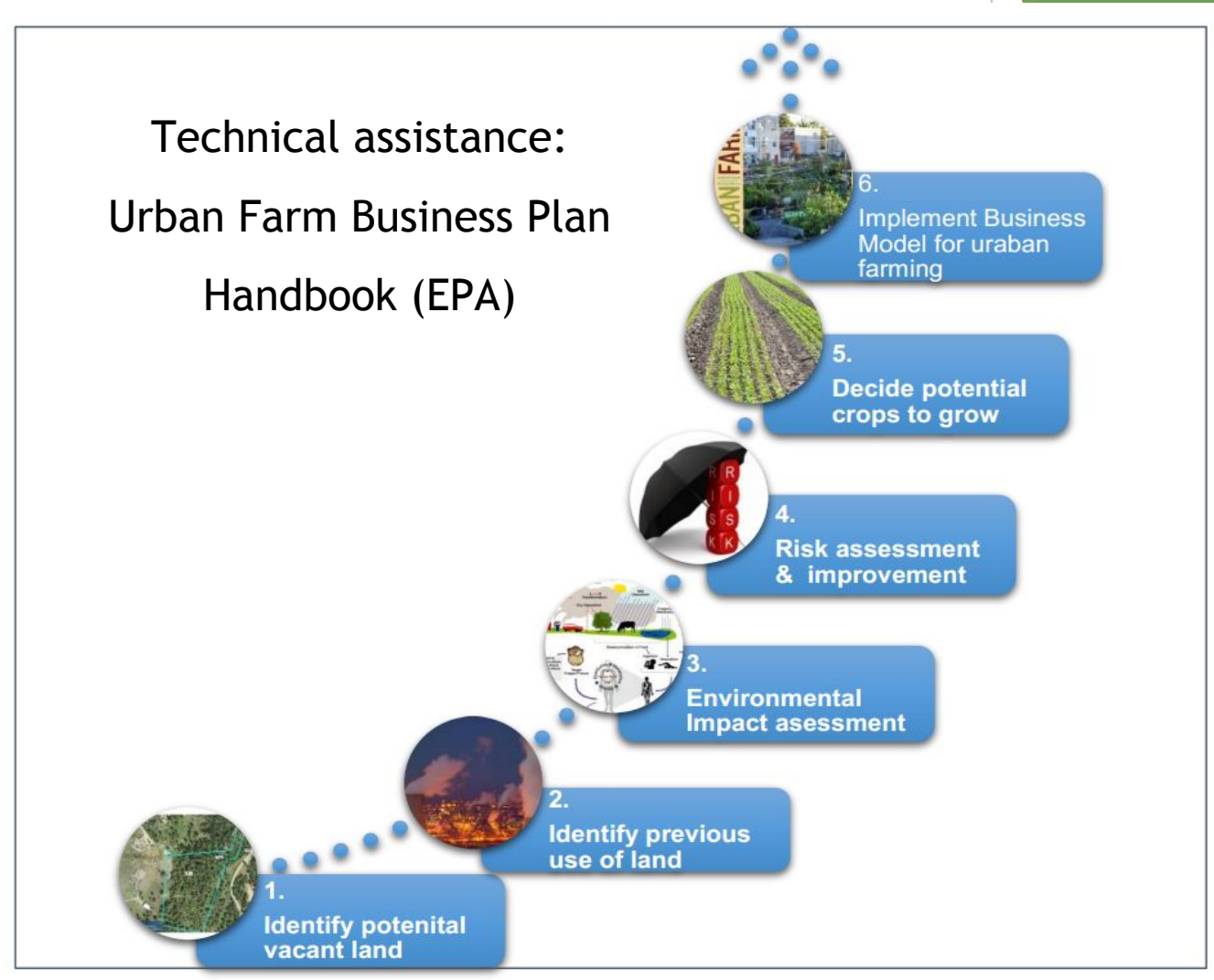


Figure: General steps for implementation of Urban Farming in Washington, D.C.

Summary

- ▶ Social and public Health Benefits
 - ▶ Improving Food Insecurity
 - ▶ Better nutrient food will reduce diet related disease such as obesity and diabetes
- ▶ Economics Benefits
 - ▶ Social Enterprise or entrepreneurial urban agriculture operations
 - ▶ Self-employment and job training
 - ▶ Reduced public healthcare cost and budget
- ▶ Lowering the food cost for consumers
- ▶ Environmental Benefits

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

Advance your neighborhood, Develop Washington, D.C.

Thank You all.

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