

The Project | Broad Scope

Sunny Farms, LLC will invest \$59.6 million to establish a state-of-the-art hydroponic greenhouse for production, workforce development, and research in the City of Virginia Beach.

Why Important

FOOD SECURITY

Sunny Farms' *hyper*natural method of producing food creates an ideal environment for plants to maximize production and be the healthiest and most nutritious possible, without encumbrance of insects or disease. This is state-of-the-art technologically-evolved farming of the 21st century which will produce fresh, Virginia-grown year-round crops.

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

Located within a suburban area, farm-to-table has never been a shorter journey—reducing transportation (energy) requirements, as well as water and fertilizer use. The management (and possible mismanagement) of polluting fertilizer and insecticide runoff necessary on traditional farms is no longer a factor. 95% of the water needed in production is recycled and used again.

EDUCATION | ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

Partnership with Virginia Tech and Virginia Community Colleges ensures a new generation of bright young minds will become engaged in the food production industry—reversing the trend of young people leaving family farm operations. Sunny Farms will serve as a laboratory and research center where new curriculums and training protocols will be developed to support this hydroponic form of agriculture.

ECONOMIC VALUE COMBINED WITH A SOCIAL PURPOSE

Sunny Farms will create 155 high-quality jobs in Virginia Beach. As a certified B Corp, Sunny Farms' social and environmental achievements will be transparently available for examination. Partnerships with educational institutions and organizations such as ONE Matters Inc., a new 501c3, not-for-profit entity that will offer workforce development opportunities for underserved populations, will ensure not only economic returns from Sunny Farms, but valuable social returns for our community. This investment ensures farming will remain a vibrant industry in Virginia Beach.

Goals

Sunny Farms will establish its growing, cleaning, and packaging operation in three phases over 36 months.

Phase 1: 120,000 sq ft greenhouse (3 acres under glass) – focus on lettuce & leafy greens

Phase 2: Expand to 640,000 sq ft (16 acres under glass)

Phase 3: 1.2 million sq ft (32 acres under glass) – leafy and other vegetable varieties.

MORE AT SUNNYFARMVB.COM