



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Public Relations

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VIDE Launches First-Ever Hydroponic Trailer Freight Farm at Eulalie Rivera PreK-8 School: A Major Leap Forward in Sustainable Agriculture and Education

The Virgin Islands Department of Education's (VIDE) Sustainability and Agricultural Education (SAE) Division is excited to announce the arrival and installation of the Territory's first-ever hydroponic freight farm trailer, now housed at Eulalie Rivera PreK-8 School on St. Croix. This state-of-the-art freight farm is the result of a collaborative initiative led by the St. Croix District Office of Curriculum and Instruction (C&I), with funding provided through the Consolidated Grant Agreement (CGA).

The success of this groundbreaking project reflects a strong partnership among various VIDE departments and stakeholders. The Department extends special recognition to the C&I team for their outstanding commitment and dedication in bringing this vision to life. This innovative freight farm marks a historic milestone in agricultural education and sustainability for the Virgin Islands. Fully self-contained and climate-controlled, the trailer uses cutting-edge hydroponic technology to grow the equivalent of 2.5 acres of produce in a compact, soil-free environment.

"This isn't just a farm; it's a classroom on wheels. Our students across the Territory now have a powerful, hands-on opportunity to learn about sustainable agriculture, food security, and eco-friendly practices that will shape the future of our islands," said Cydney Meadows, Territorial Director of SAE.

The hydroponic trailer farm is available for all USVI students, serving as a learning hub that integrates STEM, environmental stewardship, and agricultural education. This initiative underscores VIDE's commitment to building a more resilient and food-secure Virgin Islands by investing in the next generation of sustainability leaders.

"We're cultivating more than crops; we're cultivating curiosity, innovation, and a sense of responsibility to our planet. Together, we are growing a greener, more sustainable future for the Virgin Islands," said Commissioner Dionne Wells-Hedrington.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates as students begin planting, harvesting, and learning in USVI's newest green classroom. For additional information, contact Territorial Director of the Sustainability and Agricultural Education Division, Cydney Meadows at 340-774-0100 or cydney.meadows@vide.vi.

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