



SNAPSHOT

Optimizing Space at an Indoor Farm

Spacesaver helps Farm.One, an indoor farm in Manhattan, grow more food in less space.



Chefs in Manhattan and other urban centers want to serve meals made with the finest ingredients, and they're willing to pay a premium for fresh herbs, salad greens, and vegetables. But supplying fresh produce year-round can be difficult for farmers, particularly in cold winter climates. The logistical challenge of transporting produce into the city from farms and greenhouses in the countryside adds another layer of cost and complexity.

With Spacesaver's help, a Manhattan entrepreneur has devised a creative solution to this problem: he has transformed a restaurant basement into a thriving hydroponic herb-growing business. The indoor farm, called Farm.One, grows hundreds of different varieties of high-value herbs and microgreens year-round. Located in Manhattan's Tribeca neighborhood, the farm is less than half an hour away by bike or subway from most of the restaurants that it supplies.



Spacesaver can help you: gain more growing area, improve efficiency, and save money by building in a smaller footprint and by reducing operating cost.

With that prime location, though, comes space pressure. Every square inch is precious in Manhattan, and the farm's leadership team needed to figure out how to make the best use of their limited space in order to create a viable business model.

SMART SOLUTIONS TO MAXIMIZE GROWING SPACE

In an effort to maximize space in the small room, Farm.One CEO Robert Laing sought a way to eliminate wasted aisle space between the growing racks. He found information about the ActivRAC® Mobilized Storage System online and he worked with the Manhattan-based Spacesaver distributor to design the layout. "It gave us about 30 percent more space in the room, which is obviously a really big deal for us," he said. "It's a beautiful piece of engineering."

Spacesaver's ActivRAC system eliminates empty aisles, allowing more shelving units to be placed in any given space. The system consists of rails installed in the floor along with "carriages" that move along the rails and support shelving units or pallet racking. Clients can install their own shelving or racking on the system or purchase new shelving or racking from Spacesaver. The shelves slide together to completely fill the room, and an aisle can be opened by turning a handle (mechanical assist systems) or pressing a button (electronic systems).





Growing more food in less space isn't only good for the farm's bottom line. It's also good for the environment.



ActivRAC is available in stainless steel, which is recommended for humid environments.

MINIMIZING THE FARM'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Growing more food in less space isn't only good for Farm.One's bottom line; it's also good for the environment. Spacesaver systems often contribute points toward LEED® certification for businesses, libraries, and other institutions because they are manufactured from sturdy recycled steel and because they allow architects to design buildings within a smaller footprint while still maintaining the same functionality as a much larger building. The savings continue long after the building opens for business, because a smaller space requires less energy to heat and cool. These principles hold true even in a small space like the restaurant basement that Farm.One occupies.

Farm.One is committed to minimizing its environmental impact in other ways, as well. By using proprietary automated systems for LED lighting and irrigation, along with natural pest control methods, plants are kept healthy and thriving without artificial fertilizers or pesticides. Deliveries are made on foot, by bike, or by public transportation.

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—Farm.One CEO Robert Laing

To learn more about Spacesaver Storage Solutions and how a Spacesaver Storage Specialist can help you overcome your storage challenges, please visit www.spacesaver.com or call 1-800-492-3434.



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