

Back Home Farms 2021 CSA

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218-616-2333



What is a CSA?

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) means that You Become a Part of Our Farm! Rather than simply purchasing produce from wherever/whenever, our customers become "shareholders" of our CSA farm and share in the rewards and production risks, and receive a portion of our farm's harvest each week.

CSA shareholders purchase an up-front share of the farm's produce and/or meat for the season, before the seeding/planting season begins.

Advantages for Shareholders:

- Eat ultra-fresh food, with all the flavor and vitamin benefits.
- Don't have to shop for vegetables or meat every week, just pick up your box.
- Get exposed to new vegetables and/or meat and new ways of cooking.
- Find that kids typically favor food from "their" farm, even veggies they've never been known to eat.
- Shareholder potluck at the farm! (Date to be announced later)
- Develop a relationship with the farmer who grows your food and learn more about how food is grown. *Know your Farmer, Know your Food!*
- A weekly newsletter from the fields where I also post recipes for every skill level with inspirations of what you could do with your produce, you're not alone in this journey!!
- Vegetable storage tips
- Opportunities to order extra produce or share in a bounty
- Access to our private Facebook group
- We invite you to come out and visit the farm and to meet all the animals.(please schedule with us ahead of time)
- Shareholders will be invited to "Pumpkin Pick-up Days" (at our farm) where shareholders can pick out their carving pumpkins free of charge, according to your share size.
- Pumpkin Pitch - Pigs love pumpkins so bring your "clean" Halloween pumpkins to feed to the pigs.
 - The first full weekend in November:
 - Saturday - 11/06/2021 from 12 noon to 2pm (We know that is deer season opener but hopefully you can find time to make the trip out.)

Shared Risk

This is an important concept woven into the CSA model that takes the arrangement beyond the usual commercial transaction. The shareholder and the farmer share in the risk associated with natural farming as well the benefits of a bountiful season. If the farm has a tomato bumper crop, there will be excess for shareholders and the farmer alike. If a plague of locusts eats all the greens, then we would look for other crops to fill in the loss.

Also, because we do not spray our crops you may occasionally find a “friend” (extra protein!) in your broccoli but don’t worry, we’ll tell you how to be sure you get them all out with proper washing a preparation before you eat it!.

How it Works

Our CSA runs for 16 weeks and begins in mid-June and runs through the first week of October, with shareholders either visiting the farm or farmers market to pick up your shares. Each week, we harvest 6-10 items fresh for your share box. Some crops may be limited, and others abundant, depending on the week and weather. Early summer brings shares rich in greens and radishes; soon we move into carrots, cabbages, beets, and onions; and full summer arrives with cucumbers, summer squash, peppers, bountiful tomatoes and more. The season is rounded out in the fall with hearty roots, zesty greens, potatoes, and winter squashes.

We will provide our shareholders with the best of what is available at the time.

Varieties and quantities will obviously vary from week to week. We grow over 40 different crops to include throughout the CSA growing season but share size definitely gains momentum over the course of the season.

Our weekly CSA newsletters keep shareholders updated on the progress of the crops and the ups and downs of the season, our techniques, and our challenges. We ask all shareholders to read the newsletters each week and feel free to chat with us at distributions or contact us via phone or email if you have any questions or concerns. We also have a private Facebook group just for shareholders.



Eat Local

2021 CSA Programs:

16-Week Full Vegetable Share (\$650) Each week there will be an assortment of 6-10 different produce items that can feed a family of four to six.

16-Week Half Vegetable Share (\$425) Each week there will be an assortment of 6-10 different produce items that can feed a family of two to three.

Market Season Meat Share (\$350) Our meat share program runs from June thru September (4 shares) and includes 15-16 lbs of meat every month. (beef, pork, chicken)

16-Week Egg Share (\$56) 1 dozen farm fresh eggs each week - this share is only available if a vegetable or meat share is purchased.

- **A minimum deposit of half of your total share purchase is required to hold your space. If you pay in full up front you will receive a \$10 credit to use at our farm store or at the farmer's market on any of our products.**
- All deposits are non-refundable but are transferrable.
- Final payment is due by May 15th.
- We accept cash, check, credit card or SNAP/EBT. (You will be assessed any bank fees in the event of returned or bounced checks) ALL FORMS OF PAYMENT REQUIRE YOU TO READ AND UNDERSTAND THE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT! By purchasing a CSA share, you agree to the terms listed in the membership agreement.
- The primary shareholder is the "owner" of the share in our bookkeeping records. Making sure this name is on all payments and correspondence related to your share helps us to credit your account accurately.
- Primary shareholders will receive a receipt for the amount applied and if not paid in full, we will bill you for the remainder of your purchases in late April.

Other Info you need to know:

- Email is our primary means of communication with our shareholders so please be sure that you leave us with a working email address as well as a cell phone number that we can text or call if needed.
- Each week during the season, you will receive a CSA e-newsletter, including a crop list for the week, seasonal recipes, and "Notes from the Farm."



2021 Back Home Farms Shareholder Agreement:

Mailing Address and Farm Store Pickup

(Fridays 3p-6p)

**please do not bring any dogs to the farm*

14844 129th Ave

Park Rapids, MN 56470

Judi cell# 218-616-2333

Farmer's Market Pickup

(Saturdays 9a-12n)

Empty Lot on Hwy 34 across
from Theilen Motors (next to the Legion)
Park Rapids, MN 56470

Main Shareholder Name: _____

Address: _____

City | State | Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Additional Shareholders:

If you plan to split your share with family, friends, neighbors, etc., please provide their name and email address below. (please limit to one name) This is very important as it will allow us to send them the weekly newsletter, as well as any relevant updates or announcements.

Children: How many children are in your family that would like pumpkins? _____

Preferred Pickup Day: Fridays (3p-6p) at the farm _____

(this is flexible) Saturdays (9a-12n) at the Farmer's Market _____

- 16-Week Full Vegetable Share (\$650)** Each week there will be an assortment of 6-10 different produce items that can feed a family of four to six.
- 16-Week Half Vegetable Share (\$425)** Each week there will be an assortment of 6-10 different produce items that can feed a family of two to three.
- Market Season Meat Share - (\$350)** Our meat share program runs from June thru September (4 shares) and includes 15-16 lbs of meat every month.
- 16-Week Egg Share (\$56)** 1 dozen farm fresh eggs each week - this share is only available if a vegetable or meat share is purchased.



As a CSA shareholder I understand and agree to the following:

- I share in the risk as well as the rewards of the farm season.
- I am willing to accept the possibility that vegetable quantity and variety may vary due to weather, pests, disease and other unforeseen factors.
- My weekly share will be picked up during the day and times that are offered.
- I agree to check email and/or the private Facebook page to be up to date on any announcements the farm may send out.
- I understand that I will be assigned two CSA boxes for the season and will bring the empty box back each week when I pick up my new share.
- There is no guarantee on what produce will be in each box, even boxes delivered the same day due to the uncertainty of crops, weather, yields and quality.
- If you cannot pick up your share, you must arrange for someone else to pick it up for you. You are responsible for explaining the pick-up procedure to your substitute. If you can't find someone, to ensure efficiency for our pick and pack days, please let us know 48 hours prior that you won't be picking up your box and we will not pack it. If unforeseen circumstances arise, please contact Judi at 218-616-2333 as soon as possible as we try to accommodate emergencies. Shares that are not retrieved within the designated pick-up time will be forfeited for that week.
- You will be receiving the freshest produce available short of growing it yourself. That being said, shares will come packed unwashed for the most part. Please take the time to properly wash and store all produce each week as soon as possible. We will include tips in the weekly newsletter for you to help you know the best way to preserve your produce.
- In the CSA model, shareholders are seen as active farm partners, sharing the risks and rewards of the harvest. Shareholders may cancel their subscription at any time, for any reason, however should you choose to cancel your subscription, we cannot offer a refund for any unused shares. We will however transfer your status to another person for the remainder of the season.

Now What?

- Sign the Shareholder Agreement (keep a copy for yourself).
- Return Shareholder Agreement and a deposit for your share. A minimum deposit of half of your total share purchase is required to hold your space. If you pay in full up front you will receive a \$10 credit to use at our farm store or at the farmer's market on any of our products.
- **All deposits are non-refundable but are transferrable. Final payment is due by May 15th. We accept cash, check, credit card or SNAP/EBT.**
- Watch for emails from the farm. Before the season begins, we will send you a copy of this season's Member Handbook, which will have all the details to help you have a smooth and successful CSA experience. You will also receive our weekly newsletter, beginning the Wednesday evening preceding the first pick up date.

I have read, understand and agree to the Shareholder Agreement

Primary Shareholder (*confirms agreement for all Shareholders if sharing*)

Date