**Greetings 2019 Share Members!**

Please read this welcome email thoroughly as it contains important information on our CSA season and a few important changes from 2018.

If you are receiving this email, you have signed-up to receive a vegetable share delivered to your workplace, Escarpment Labs.

We are especially excited for our seventh season of growing organic veggies! The 2019 season has started cool and rainy but the vegetables are growing, nevertheless.

We are aiming for the week of June 10th for CSA deliveries to start. Due to the cool start to the season this may mean that we are short a vegetable or two for the first week as we wait for them to finish maturing. But favourites like spinach are ready to go and we don’t want to miss out so we will start the season as planned and play catch-up on vegetables in future weeks!

For more farm updates and to receive the Weekly Share Newsletter, I strongly encourage all share members to sign-up for our blog posts. In these posts I share important farm and share information, include relevant recipes, and show members what they will be receiving that particular week in their shares. I put significant time and energy into these posts and feel they are a vital part of the CSA experience. To sign-up, visit <http://www.terraverdehomestead.com/blog> and enter your email address in the sign-up box.

**2019 Share Information**

**WHEN:** Every Thursday at approximately 2:30pm starting on June 13th and continuing for 15 pickups (spread over 20 weeks), until October 24th. There will be no veggies on July 11th, August 15th, September 19th, October 3rd, and October 17th. Don’t worry, we’ll remind you of these weeks off as we get closer to them!

Please note that at the three fall deliveries (Sept 24, Oct 8 & 22) you will receive a double quantity of vegetables, as vegetables at this time of year store well. This means that you will receive 18-weeks worth of vegetables over 15 pickups.

**WHERE:** Escarpment Labs

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** Your share will come pre-packed in a Rubbermaid container. I will leave the full containers at your workplace and then pickup the empty containers the following week. Please bring reusable bags or bins to take your share home in – as I have a limited number of Rubbermaid containers I must receive all the empty ones back the following week.

You may notice in my blog posts that I am working to eliminate single use plastic bags on our farm. For now, I will be using up my remaining stock for those receiving a pre-packed delivery. Once gone, I will be switching to biodegradable produce bags.

**CHOICE ITEMS:** You will notice that some weeks include a choice item (ie. either eggplant or cabbage). For pre-packed shares, I randomly make a choice on your behalf based on availability. If there is one or two vegetables you absolutely cannot eat, please let me know and I will try to accommodate. Unfortunately, I cannot offer full customization of pre-packed shares. You can also make some trades with your co-workers so that each of you gets what you prefer!

**VACATION DETAILS:** All share members can take up to two weeks’ vacation at any time up to September 12th and receive up to two double shares at any other time up to September 12th. We cannot accommodate vacation/double shares during the 3 fall pickups as these are already double quantity shares. We cannot accommodate vacation/double shares during the 3 fall deliveries as these are already double quantity shares. Please email or call me to let me know the dates you will be on vacation and when you wish to receive a double share. I must have at least one week’s notice of either vacation or double shares.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

1. **I am going to be away for more than 2 weeks in the summer. Can I take more vacation days?**

If you are away more than two weeks in the summer you have a few options. You can have a co-worker take your share on your behalf. Or, you can let me know that you won’t be around and we will donate your share to either the Centre Wellington Food Bank or Chalmers Community Centre.

1. **I bought an add-on item. How does that work?**

An add-on gives you an ‘extra’ quantity of a particular vegetable. For example, if you ordered a carrot add-on you will receive an extra bunch of carrots every week that you would normally receive carrots. I will automatically include your add-ons with your order.

1. **Do you sell any other farm products?**

Yes! Most weeks we will have our Raw Wildflower Honey and pastured chicken eggs available for purchase. We also sell our frozen pastured chickens. You can pre-order these items in the via email. You may arrange electronic payment in advance of delivery or pay in cash or a cheque in at delivery time. We do frequently sell out of eggs so they may not be available every week.

If you have any questions about the CSA process or our farm, don’t hesitate to ask! We love to share our methods and experiences with share members.

I look forward to delivering your shares to you starting June 13th!

Lorraine