**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 with our home delivery option.

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 Tuesday afternoon starting on June 11th and continuing for 15 weeks (spread over 20 weeks), until October 22nd . There will be no veggies on July 9th , August 13th, September 17th , October 1st, and October 15th . Don’t worry, we will remind you of these dates as they get closer!

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.

 You do not need to be home to receive the share. Mount Forest deliveries will occur in late afternoon. We aim to have all deliveries completed by 5pm at the latest.

**WHERE:** Your house!

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** Please leave a cooler or similar bin near your door / on the porch and I will fill it with your share items. A shady spot would be best. On very hot days in the summer you may wish to leave a cold pack in the cooler. Otherwise, the produce will be fine for a few hours in the cooler.

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 home delivery. Once gone, I will be switching to biodegradable produce bags.

**TRADE-IN OPTIONS:** In order to offer our home delivery share members the same customization as our pickup members, we will email you a ‘Home Delivery Form’ weekly. In this form you can indicate items you wish to trade-in and what you would prefer instead. This form will include a list of what is the weekly share and a list of vegetables you could choose instead. You may trade-in up to 2 items weekly. Early in the season there will be less choice of trade-in items. Later in the season the choices increase. The ‘Home Delivery Form’ will be sent out on the preceding Friday or Saturday. I must receive your response by Monday at 8am. Any late responses cannot be accommodated due to our busy harvest schedule. No need to send back the form if you are happy with the week’s contents!

**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. 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 someone else (friend, family, neighbour) swing by your house to pickup your share on your behalf. Or, you can let me know that you won’t be home and we will donate your share to either the Centre Wellington Food Bank or Chalmers Community Centre. We cannot deliver shares to a different address when you are away.

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 weekly ‘Home Delivery Form’ I send through email. You may arrange electronic payment in advance of delivery or leave cash or a cheque in the cooler for me to pickup 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 11th!

Lorraine