**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 from our Thursday pickup location: 86 Glasgow St. N., Guelph (St. James Anglican Church parking lot).

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 from 4 – 6:30pm 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 pickups (Sept 26, Oct 10 & 24) 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:** 86 Glasgow St. N., Guelph (St. James Anglican Church parking lot)

**WHAT TO BRING:** Reusable bags, boxes, or containers of any sort to pack your vegetables in. **\*NEW for 2019\***: I will no longer be providing any single use plastic bags at pickup. This means that each share member is responsible for bringing something in which to pack loose items such as spinach and lettuce mix. Viewing the weekly share contents on social media or in the blog post will help you decide what vessels to bring. Thank-you in advance for your cooperation in this environmental initiative!

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** I will have a large black tent set up in the parking lot with all the vegetables laid out ‘market-style’ on tables. Share members will sign-in each week in our member binder and then help themselves to the appropriate vegetables. There will be signage at each vegetable as to the quantity to take based on your share size. There will be a marked ‘Trade-In Bin’ at the end of the tables, where members can trade-in an item they don’t want and take something else instead. Starting by week 3 or so there will be bonus herbs available for anyone who would like some.

**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. In the sign-in binder simply write ‘VAC’ in the week(s) you plan to be away; then write ‘DBL’ in the week(s) 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. **What happens if I forget to pickup my share?**

We do not replace missed shares. If you contact us immediately after missing your share (within 24 hours) we will hold it in our cooler on the farm and you may pickup here (FYI: we are 65km from Guelph). We won’t hold for more than 5 days because our cooler space is at a premium. Otherwise, missed shares get eaten by us or our pigs.

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 send someone else (friend, family) to pickup your share on your behalf. Or, you can let me know that you won’t be picking up 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?**

All add-on items and quantities will be marked on the CSA table. 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.

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 at pickup. These are available on a first-come, first-serve basis and our eggs do sell out most weeks.

During the first two pickups of 2019 we will also have some vegetable, herb, and flower transplants available for purchase. Choose some great pollinator plants to enhance your home garden!

We also sell our frozen pastured chickens. These need to be pre-ordered and then I will bring your order to pickup. Details will follow throughout the season when chickens are available.

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 seeing everyone for the first pickup on June 13th 4 – 6:30pm!

Lorraine