

# 2024 Member Agreement



## Section 1. Introducing Our CSA Farm

### A. Becoming a Part of Our Farm

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a relationship between our farm and you as our supporter. Rather than simply purchasing food, our customers become “members” of this CSA farm and receive a portion of the farm’s harvest for a designated season.

#### **Regular Season**

Our regular season CSA runs for 20 weeks, from June to mid-October. We aim to begin around the first week of June, but ultimately the date of the first delivery is dependent on the weather. We will deliver your share weekly or every other week to your office or neighborhood pick up site. Your share is delivered in a  $\frac{3}{4}$  or  $\frac{5}{9}$  wax bushel box. Each week on Saturday we list available items on our members-only online e-commerce site. You have until Monday to login and choose your items, at which time the site will close. Once logged in, you can select the combination of items you desire, up to that week's limit (this will typically be 8 items). For some items, we may limit the quantity you can select. Quantities of some items may be depleted faster than others, so selecting your items early will ensure the best selection. If you don't select any items, we'll choose the contents of your share for you. Variety and quantity may vary as described below in Section 2. We take the safety of your food seriously. We rinse most produce you will receive, but for your added protection, be sure to wash everything before eating.

#### **Fall Season**(additional fee)

Receive four deliveries of a tasty combination of fresh greens and storage crops delivered every other week in October, November, and the beginning of December. Shares are customizable as explained in the previous section. Each share contains a variety from the list of things we grow below.

### **Spring Season**(additional fee)

Receive four deliveries of a tasty combination of fresh greens and storage crops delivered every other week in March and April. Shares are customizable as explained in the previous section. Each share contains a variety from the list of things we grow below.

## **B. Our Growing Practices and Quality Standards**

We are certified Organic and also practice biodynamic agriculture.

Certified organic methods are a given for us, and we work to go beyond organic standards by improving soil quality, not just maintaining it. We also practice biodynamics and the view of the farm as a living organism. We strive to minimize the fertility inputs that come from outside and seek innovative ways to create a self-sustaining farm.

We embrace a wider range of sizes, shapes and aesthetics than a typical grocery store. Here are the reasons:

- We minimize the spraying of organic insecticides and fungicides to those strictly necessary to ensure a harvestable crop because we'll take some aesthetic imperfections in favor of biodiversity.
- We use only gentle compost bases fertilizers which means produce sizes vary. We use all sizes of produce to discourage food waste.
- We occasionally distribute crops that are minimally damaged from hail, rain, cold weather, insects, disease or other acts of nature as long as we feel the damage doesn't drastically affect the eating or storage quality of the produce.

**C. The Crops We Expect for 2024** The info below outlines some of the vegetables we hope to deliver and when you may see them in your share. This is based on our best estimate, but of course weather, pests, and other events will affect actual production. Not all items will be available every week. Some items because of their seasonal nature are only available for a very short amount of time like asparagus.

## TYPICAL AVAILABILITY BY MONTH

**MARCH & APRIL** beets, cabbage, carrots, Chinese cabbage, celeriac, garlic scallions, micro greens, mushrooms(from Gourmet Delights), radishes, onions, over-wintered salad mix, over-wintered spinach, over-wintered kale, potatoes, shallots

**MAY** arugula, asparagus, beets, carrots, garlic scallions, micro greens, mushrooms, radishes, salad mix, spinach, baby kale, potatoes, shallots

**JUNE** arugula, beets, carrots, cilantro, fennel, green garlic, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, microgreens, peas, potatoes, radishes, scallions, spinach

**JULY** basil, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, cherry tomatoes, cilantro cucumbers, fennel, garlic scapes, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, peas, potatoes, radishes, scallions, spinach, swiss chard, zucchini

**AUGUST** basil, beets, beans, carrots, celery, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, cilantro, eggplant, garlic, kale, leeks, lettuce, parsley, potatoes, scallions, summer squash, parsley, peppers, swiss chard, slicing tomatoes, canning tomatoes, zucchini

**SEPTEMBER** basil, beets, beans, carrots, napa cabbage, celery, cilantro, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, hot peppers, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, melons, onions, parsley, potatoes, scallions, shallots, summer squash, sweet peppers, swiss chard, tomatoes, saladette tomatoes, watermelons, zucchini

**OCTOBER** arugula, beets, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, napa cabbage, carrots, celery, fennel, garlic, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, onions, parsley, potatoes, radishes, scallions, spinach, peppers, swiss chard, assorted winter squash

**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER** arugula, beets, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, napa cabbage, carrots, celery, celeriac, kale, leeks, lettuce, onions, parsnips, parsley, potatoes, radishes, specialty radishes, rutabagas, salad mix, scallions, spinach, limited supply of assorted winter squash

## Section 2. Our Shared Commitments

### A. Sharing in the Risk of Crop Failure

We promise to do our best to provide you with a bountiful share each week. The quantity of produce, however, may vary from week-to-week, month-to-month, and season-to-season due to extreme weather, staffing problems, insects, or other production factors and despite our best efforts. By joining our CSA, you are agreeing to share the risk of crop failure with us and other members. **All share purchases are non-refundable.** In the event of a crop failure, our procedure is as follows:

If only a small portion of crops fail, we compensate for the failed crops by filling your share with other crops grown on the farm that are ready for harvest at that time. Each year typically brings at least one crop failure, which is why we grow a diversity of crops. We may cover for a crop loss by buying in from other local farmers, generally other farms with the same growing standards as ours. We always let you know when an item is purchase from another producer- clearly labeling the product and identifying the producer by name. If losses are great due to factors outside of our control such as unexpected personal injury or health problems of the farm's owners and primary operators, natural disaster or other catastrophe we will look to our members to meet us with an understanding of the hardship we face and ask for acceptance of little to no harvest.

## B. Sharing in the Reward of Crop Surplus

Our item sizes are flexible based on the relative abundance of a crop, however we do strive to have a consistent range. If we have more of something you will receive more. This is our unit size sliding scale:

<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>packaging</b>
<i>Arugula</i>	<i>.25-.5 pounds</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Asparagus</i>	<i>.5- 1 pound</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Basil</i>	<i>10-15 sprigs</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Beans, Green</i>	<i>.5-1 pound</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Beets w/ Greens</i>	<i>4-8 medium</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Beets, loose</i>	<i>1-2 pounds</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Broccoli</i>	<i>2-3 medium</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>B. Sprouts</i>	<i>.75-2 pounds</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Cabbage</i>	<i>1 each (2.5-6 pound)</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Carrots w/ greens</i>	<i>10-15 medium</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Carrots, loose</i>	<i>1.5-2 pounds</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Celery</i>	<i>1 large or 2 medium</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Cucumbers</i>	<i>2-3 each</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Eggplant</i>	<i>1 large or 2 medium</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Fennel</i>	<i>1 large or 2 medium</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Garlic</i>	<i>3-4 bulbs</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Kale</i>	<i>10-15 leaves</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Kohlrabi</i>	<i>2-3 medium</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Leeks</i>	<i>3 medium</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Lettuce</i>	<i>1 large or 2 medium</i>	<i>loose</i>

<i>Melons</i>	<i>1 medium</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Onions</i>	<i>3 large or 4 medium</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Parsley</i>	<i>10-15 sprigs</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Peas</i>	<i>.75-1.25 pounds</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Peppers, Hot</i>	<i>3-5 each</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Peppers, Sweet</i>	<i>2-5 each</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Potatoes</i>	<i>1.5-2 pounds</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Radishes</i>	<i>10-15 each</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Rhubarb</i>	<i>.5-1 pound</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Scallions</i>	<i>10-12 each</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Shallots</i>	<i>3-5 each</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Spinach</i>	<i>.5 pound</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Summer Squash</i>	<i>2-4 each</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Swiss Chard</i>	<i>10-12 leaves</i>	<i>bunch</i>
<i>Tomatoes, Slicing</i>	<i>4-7 each</i>	<i>loose or bag</i>
<i>Tomatoes, Roma</i>	<i>1.5-2 pounds</i>	<i>bag</i>
<i>Tomatoes, Cherry</i>	<i>.75-1.25 pounds</i>	<i>pint</i>
<i>Winter Squash</i>	<i>1 large or 2 medium</i>	<i>loose</i>
<i>Zucchini</i>	<i>2-4 each</i>	<i>loose</i>

We have surplus and seconds from time to time. If we have an abundance of any item we often increase the unit size you receive in your share. If you are looking for produce seconds please contact us.

**C. Orders Fulfillment** If an item is missing from your order we will credit your account with an item credit to be used during a future week of your choice. We are not responsible for items that mysteriously disappear from drop sites, but do try to replace these items when possible.

## Section 3.

### A. Neighborhood Pick-up

We will deliver your share to the location of your choosing. Boxes are available for pickup at the specified time for your specific site. You are then responsible for picking up your share the same day. If you do not make it to pick up your share the same day there is no guarantee that it will be available. During the fall you are responsible for making arrangements to pick up produce if freezing conditions threaten.

You are responsible for the following:

1. Returning the waxed boxes to the host site each week of subsequent delivery. We reuse the boxes. They are expensive and cannot be recycled by conventional means.
2. Letting your farmer know if you will be out of town or need to adjust the delivery in anyway. We may, but are not required to make special accommodations for you.

### **Egg Shares**

**For safety, your eggs will be located in a cooler with adequate ice-packs to keep the eggs at 40 degrees or below.**

## **C. Rescheduling**

If you can't pick up your share or will be out of town there are several options. We will accommodate up to 3 schedule changes per member. Be sure to contact us by email ahead of time to let us know which option is best for you. You must give us notice by the Saturday preceding your Thursday delivery or the only option will be to donate your share.

- donate your share to a food pantry
- have a friend pick up your share; be sure to communicate all the details to him/her
- forgo delivery and add additional items to orders in subsequent weeks
- switch the date to a week you wouldn't typically receive a share (every other week shares only)

## **Section 4. Member Fees**

By selling membership in advance of the growing season, CSA reduces the burden of up-front costs for the farmer. Your membership fees provide us with money to purchase seed and equipment before the season starts, and we appreciate your commitment. See member fees on our online sign up page.

**All payments are non-refundable.**

## **Section 5. Communicating with Us**

The best way to communicate with us is via email. Our email is [help@threesisterscommunityfarm.com](mailto:help@threesisterscommunityfarm.com)

We will do our best to respond as soon as possible, but please understand that we spend most of our time in the field growing your food and not at our desk. Please contact us with any news of the following: changes to your postal or email address, delivery problems, or dissatisfaction with your share, or need to cancel or reschedule a delivery because of vacation at least one week in advance.

We will communicate with you by email. When you sign up, you consent to receive relevant emails from us and will be added to our distribution list. Please read your emails from us. We depend on being able to communicate important information such as necessary changes to your distribution schedule or to our farm events. You can request to be removed from this list at the end of the season.

## Section 6. Security and Privacy

**PRIVACY** | We do not sell or distribute any of our customer's personal information. By signing up for our CSA you agree to receive periodic email and mail communication from the farm. You can opt out of this at any time by removing yourself from the list or contacting us to let us know you would like to be removed and we will do it for you.

**SECURITY** | Our software provider is PCI DSS compliant as demonstrated by an annual audit of the system.

## Section 7. Release of Liability

Member Assumption of Risk and Release of All Claims

- A.** Risks of Procuring a Share from a group pick up location. I understand that the activities in the world at large involve serious risks. I may be exposed to, for example, but not limited to: insects; inclement weather; extreme temperatures; poorly maintained or uneven sidewalks and steps, porches and walkways, slippery walkways, the actions and negligence of employees, volunteers, and other people; I understand that these examples are not all-inclusive and there may be additional risks, all of which may involve serious personal injury, death, or damage to my property.
- B.** Release of Claims and Assumption of Risk In exchange for the opportunity to pick up veggies from a pick up location, I (and my family, heirs, and personal representatives) willingly and knowingly release the Farm and its officers and volunteers, group pick up hosts, employees and agents from any and all liability for any personal injury or damage to myself or my property relating to my participation. I (and my family, heirs, and personal representatives) agree to assume all of the risks and responsibilities of my participation. I understand that I am solely responsible for any hospital or

other costs arising out of any personal injury or property damage relating to my participation. In consideration of the privilege of participating in the Program by myself or my minor child, as the case may be, I, and my spouse, as the case may be, do each hereby forever release, acquit and discharge the Sponsor, and agree to indemnify and hold the Sponsor completely harmless, from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, charges, demands, rights, damages, costs, loss of service, expenses and compensation whatsoever (collectively referred to as "Claims") which Participant or representative of the participant, his or her parent, or spouse may presently or hereafter have against the Sponsor on account of, personal injuries, mental conditions and/or property damage or the consequence thereof resulting from any accident, casualty or event in the course of Participant's participation in the Program.

By signing up for a share with Three Sisters Farm you agree to all points of this member agreement. I understand that, although unlikely, the farm may change parts of this agreement related to production and distribution from time to time. I understand that they will contact me via email in advance of any changes to this agreement.