

FAIR SHARE FARM CSA 2010 – HOW IT WORKS

What is Community Supported Agriculture?

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is an alliance between farmers and eaters to grow and distribute their food. Families and individuals who join the CSA receive a share of produce every week during the growing season (mid-May thru October). In exchange, members sign a contract for the season, agree to pay in advance, and help with some of the work of harvest and distribution of the food. Both partners share in the risks and rewards of small-scale organic farming: weather, insect damage, and bumper crops.

Who is Fair Share Farm?

The Fair Share Farm Community Supported Agriculture began in 2004. Farmers Rebecca Graff and Tom Ruggieri grow the food using organic practices at Fair Share Farm on the Graff family farm near Kearney MO. Each season the farmers are joined in the fields by two full-time farm apprentices and many helping hands from the community.

Where is Fair Share Farm?

18613 Downing Road, Kearney, MO 64060

(816) 320-3763

www.fairsharefarm.com

rebecca@fairsharefarm.com

The farm is located off of MM Hwy. just north of Watkins Mill State Park in Northeastern Clay County, MO. Highways 69 and 92 provide easy access from I-35. Directions are available on our website (please use these directions, mapquest will get you lost).

Who is Fair Share Farm CSA?

The CSA is comprised of families and individuals from the community who choose to support the work of Fair Share Farm and receive shares of produce from the farm during the growing season. Members pick up their food weekly in Kansas City, in Liberty, or at the farm. All members contribute their time and energy to the farm's harvest, attend the spring sign-up meeting and are invited to celebrate the season at the Harvest Dinner in the fall.

Who is the Fair Share Farm CSA Core Group?

The FSF CSA Core Group facilitates the distribution of high quality, sustainably-raised, local produce and companion products to a community of members. These products are highly-valued and the preservation of food is encouraged for local eating year-round. The core also builds awareness of the Community Supported Agriculture model and enables the viability of local family farmers. Each core group member takes on a specific job for the year, including distribution coordination, member in-reach, farm work scheduling, planning social events, and coordinating the core group meetings. Participation in the Core Group is open to any member. Work on the core group replaces the farm work requirements.

What is a Share?

The weekly share includes an average of 7 to 9 items for full shares, and 4 to 6 for partial shares (less early and late in the season, and more at peak season). Items are typically what you would purchase at the store or farmers market in order to make a dish. In general, a full share should be ample for a family of four or two adults who cook at home regularly and eat a lot of veggies. A partial share is a good size for a single person or two adults who don't cook at home every night. A third option is to split a full share with another family. Bulk quantities can be purchased for canning, freezing, and storage as they are available.

Who can Join?

Membership is open to anyone in the Greater Kansas City area or the local Kearney/Liberty area. Families with children are especially welcome, and we will arrange the farm work schedule to include children to the greatest extent possible.

What does it Cost?

An initial \$50 deposit is required to join. The deposit will hold your place until Spring Sign-up and will then be applied to the cost of your share. Membership costs are on a sliding scale. Members who cannot afford the share cost may pay at a lower rate. Likewise, those who want to pay more than the share cost will enable the farm to stay on budget while allowing the CSA to reach a wider diversity of community members. We also offer Veggie Vouchers that cover an additional \$100 of the share cost for those in need. To request a Veggie Voucher, make a note on your deposit slip. The share price may be paid in full at sign-up or in increments, with the entire balance being due by the end of July. Bulk and special orders are paid for separately when ordered.

2010 SHARE SIZES & COST

- A) Full** Approx. 7-9 items depending on time of season.
Share cost: \$570 plus tax for 24 weeks
Annual Membership Fee: \$25
Total: \$595 (sliding scale: \$475 - \$715)
- B) Full Shared:** Same size as a full share. The members themselves divide payments, work requirements and produce between 2 or more households.
Share cost: Same as full share.
Annual Membership Fee: \$25
Total: \$595 (sliding scale: \$475 - \$715)
- C) Partial:** Approx 4-6 items depending on time of season
Share cost: \$410 plus tax for 24 weeks
Annual Membership Fee: \$25
Total: \$435 (sliding scale: \$315 - \$555)

How Does It Work?

Each member household assists with the harvest of the shares a few times each year. This farm work takes place either Wednesday or Saturday mornings (8am to 12 noon) and includes harvesting, washing and packing that day's CSA shares with the farmers. Several shifts can be satisfied in one morning depending on the number of participants a household brings. In addition, members who work on the farm on Saturdays are asked to assist in bringing the produce to the Liberty distribution site after their mornings at the farm. Members will schedule these shifts with the Core Group at the Spring Sign-up.

FARM SHIFTS:

Full or Full Shared Share:

3 Farm Shifts of 4 hours each (8 AM - Noon)

Total of 12 hours

Partial Share:

2 Farm Shifts of 4 hours each (8 AM - Noon)

Total of 8 hours

SEASON:

24 Weeks – mid-May through October. We plan to start distributing shares May 12th.

FOOD PICKUP (DISTRIBUTION):

There are three locations to pick up your share of the harvest. Members need to choose one location & time for the season.

Farm: 18613 Downing Rd.

- Wednesdays: after 1:30 pm through Thursday
- Saturdays: after 1:30 pm through Sunday

Liberty: at the home of Fred & Carole Barth, 104 Nashua Rd. in Liberty, MO.

- Saturdays: 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Kansas City: at the Bad Seed Market, 1909 McGee, KCMO 64108
(between 19th & 20th Streets in the Crossroads District)

- Wednesdays: 5:00 –7:00 pm

OTHER PRODUCTS:

Fair Share Farm members have the opportunity to purchase shares of other local food products to supplement our vegetables:

- Meat shares: contact Parker Farms, parkerfarms@peoplepc.com
- Egg shares: contact Parker Farms
- Bread shares: contact Bread of Life Bakery, breadoflifeorganics@yahoo.com