



2010 CSA Information

Hello from the farm! We hope this finds you all warm and well. Here in Greenville we are bundled up tight and settling in for the long winter ahead. However, the fields are never far from our thoughts, and it's now time to start preparations for next season.

2010 will be our fifth year as a CSA, representing an exciting benchmark in our growth as a farm. We have reached our 50 share goal and will not be adding more shares for the next few years. Given the length of our waiting list, it is more important than in years past that returning members renew their memberships promptly.

This season we have decided to keep our share options and prices the same as last year. Instead, we are introducing a work commitment for CSA members. Member work commitments are an integral component of traditional CSA models and have always been part of our vision for the CSA as a true partnership between farmers and consumers. Member work helps keep the cost of shares down and provides a deeper connection to the food you eat. Yes this is (a little) work, but it will be fun and rewarding too, and we genuinely appreciate your contribution. In designing the work requirement we have carefully considered all of the feedback provided by members to come up with the guidelines described on the reverse.

You'll also notice some changes in our fruit and flower share options. As a step toward a longer-term goal of expanding the fruit share to 20 weeks, we are adding one week (from 15 to 16 weeks) of fruit at the same price as last year. For flower shares, this year we plan to deliver loose bunches, rather than arranged bouquets. We have found that arranging individual bouquets is simply too time-consuming on harvest days. We will still have beautiful variety for you to arrange yourselves!

For more information about our CSA and the share options available for 2010, please visit our Web site at: www.foxtailcommunityfarm.com.

Reserving a CSA Share for 2010

- * To reserve your share for the 2010 season, complete and return the attached CSA Membership Agreement form, along with a non-refundable deposit of \$100.
- * **For returning members:** shares will be held for returning members until **January 23, 2009**. After this date we will offer any available CSA shares to people on our waiting list. Please do not miss this deadline, as we cannot guarantee shares will be available after this date!
- * **For new members:** if we have contacted you about an available share, please email us **within 5 days** to verify that you are still interested. If you are on our waiting list but have not heard from us, please do not submit a membership agreement form and deposit until we contact you about an available share. If you are not yet on our waiting list, we encourage you to join now. A waiting list form is available on our Web site at: www.foxtailcommunityfarm.com
- * Members may choose to split a share with another family, but are responsible for arranging payment and dividing produce themselves. Please submit a membership agreement form for each household.
- * The full balance for the season is due no later than **April 1, 2010**. Please let us know in advance if this schedule presents a hardship for you.

Read on, there's more on the back...



2010 CSA Work Commitment Details

- * We are asking each share to contribute **two hours** of work at some point during the CSA season. These two hours must be completed in a single work session, i.e. one working visit to the farm.
- * Members can help with a variety of farm tasks, which will vary with the weather and the time of year. Examples of work tasks include seeding, transplanting, hoeing, hand weeding, mulching, trellising, harvesting, washing and packing. We will provide basic instruction and supervision. It is our hope that every member can find a job they are interested in, enjoy and can perform without undue stress. If you have physical limitations that don't allow you to do field work we will work with you to find something suitable (believe us, there is always something we need help with!)
- * The work commitment will be organized in two ways: a **standing member work day** and **rotating work projects**. For 2010, the standing member work day will be Tuesdays from 8 am -12 noon. Any member can come down to the farm on Tuesday mornings to work on whatever currently needs doing. The rotating work projects will be on various weekend dates to be announced. These will be posted in advance and will be oriented around specific seasonal tasks. For example, in early May we might have a planting project to get 2000 broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage seedlings in the ground; in late August we might have a potato digging day to harvest 400 lbs of potatoes; and in mid-September we might have a “low-impact” session to clean garlic bulbs for fall planting. (Note that these work projects are different from the Farm Days, which will continue to be primarily social and educational rather than work-oriented – though we may piggy-back work opportunities on Farm Days).
- * The work commitment may be completed by any adult or responsible older youth members from the share household(s). We love all of your children and welcome them to visit the farm to play and learn. However, time spent supervising children cannot be counted toward work hours. Young children will become bored quickly and may unintentionally damage plants. We request that another non-working adult come along to supervise children.
- * Make it fun! Sign up and carpool with a group of fellow members - with some coming to do work, others to watch children, and others to play inspiring work songs on their guitars. Or come on your own for some Zen time – weeding can be very meditative or aggression-releasing (depending on your style and mood!) Bring a picnic and hang out after you work for a hike or a swim, or organize a potluck style lunch. Integrating work and social activity is a core of farm life.
- * We recognize that some of our returning members cannot commit to this work requirement. Returning members may opt to defer the work commitment and in place **add \$25 to the price of your share** for the season. **This option is available only to returning members from 2009**. All new members must complete the two-hour work commitment (and we hope all the returning members will, too!)
- * If you are interested in making a more extensive weekly or monthly work commitment, please discuss with us on an individual basis.

As always, please contact us with any questions at (518) 966-8698 or mail@foxtailcommunityfarm.com. We look forward to hearing from you, and to another bountiful CSA season!

With warm wishes,

Eric and Rachel



2010 CSA Membership Agreement Form

To reserve your share in our 2010 CSA, please carefully review, complete and return this agreement. Copies of this form are available at www.foxtailcommunityfarm.com. Contact us with any questions at (518) 966-8698 or mail@foxtailcommunityfarm.com.

1) Select your produce share. There are two produce share sizes to choose from:

- Harvest Basket** – Our standard share. Includes a full share of each week's harvest, from the first taste to the peak bounty of each item. Averages one bushel per week, with quantity and variety increasing as the season progresses. **\$490**
- Taste of the Season** - Features vegetables and herbs at the peak of their seasons. Approximately two-thirds the size of the Harvest Basket. May not include all items in the standard share depending on availability. **\$380**

2) Select any additional options if desired. These will be delivered along with your produce share.

- Fruit Share** – Fresh berries, tree fruit, and melons from our own and other local farms. We choose fruit raised using organic or other sustainable methods when available. Approximately sixteen deliveries. **\$140**
- Flower Share** – Loose (non-arranged) bunches of a wide variety of seasonal fresh flowers grown on our farm. Approximately twelve deliveries. **\$90**

We are working on optional egg share and fall harvest Thanksgiving Share. Details to be announced when ready.

3) Verify Work Commitment

- I/we will fulfill the standard 2-hour work commitment. *New members must select this.*
- I/we are opting out of the 2-hour work commitment. *This option is available to 2009 returning members only. Add \$25 to your share price.*

4) Select your delivery site:

- Delmar
- OCFS Building in Rensselaer. *Shares at this site must be picked up by 6:00 pm weekly.*
- Loudonville
- Pick up on the farm in Greenville. *Deduct \$25 from your share price.*
- We are always looking for potential new delivery sites. Check here if you are interested in hosting a site.*

5) Review additional details, complete and sign your CSA agreement:

- * A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required with this agreement to reserve your share for the season.
- * Balance is due no later than **April 1**. *Please let us know in advance if this schedule presents a hardship for you.*
- * Members may split shares, but are responsible for arranging payment and dividing produce themselves. Please submit a copy of this form for each household.
- * Delivery schedule will be determined and announced in the spring.
- * Members are responsible for assuring their share is picked up each week or for contacting their site host in advance if a share cannot be picked up.
- * Farming contains risks beyond our control. We cannot guarantee the quantity or availability of any specific item.

I have reviewed the information in this agreement and the 2010 CSA Information materials, and wish to become a member of Foxtail Community Farm CSA for the 2010 season.

Signature

Date

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Total Amount Due: \$ _____ Payment Enclosed \$ _____

*Please make checks payable to Foxtail Community Farm. Send this form with your deposit to:
Foxtail Community Farm, 506 County Route 75, Greenville, NY, 12083*