

Brookside Family Farm 2015 CSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Contact Information Phone: 978-855-1837 Fax: 978-827-5448 email
www.brooksidefamilyfarm.com
 vee@brooksidefamilyfarm.com

1. Please fill in the following information:

Name:		
Street Address:		
City or Town:	State:	Zip:
Cell Phone:	Home Phone:	
E-Mail Address:		
Sign-up date:	How did you hear about us?	
<i>If referred by another CSA member, print their name:</i>		

2. Please chose a share option. Fill in the amount(s) in Column C and total below.

<i>A. Plan Choices</i>	<i>B. Price</i>	<i>C. Your cost</i>
Standard Share (16 weeks)	\$470.00	
Small Share (16 weeks)	\$270.00	
	Total:	

3. Select your payment:

- a. **Pay by check.** Send to: Brookside Family Farm, 145 Ashburnham State Rd. P.O. Box 144, Westminster, MA. 01473
- b. **Pay by Credit Card:**

Credit Card Type:	Credit Card #:	CVC Code	Exp. Date:	Name as it appears on card:

4. Please sign below: 2015 SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENT

*I would like to join the Brookside Family Farm CSA program and receive my share of the harvest.
I understand that I will share with the bounty and the risks involved with food production.*

Signature:	Date:

Brookside Family Farm

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Buy Local – Support Your Family Farm – Eat Well

Introduction

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) consists of a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm operation so that the farmland becomes the community's farm, with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of food production.

Brookside Family Farm CSA

Brookside Farm community members buy into the farm's production at the start of the growing season and in exchange receive a share of the farm's harvest. At Brookside Farm we offer a subscription CSA. We do the work (planting, weeding, harvesting) and you do the eating. Community Supported Agriculture is just one way that we market our products at the farm.

CSA Benefits

The share holder benefits from a constant supply of locally grown produce offered weekly, ripe and fresh, and a monthly recipes, and farm happenings.

The farmer gets the benefit of a positive cash flow in March and April when there are a lot of expenses from buying seed, supplies and labor to begin the spring growing season.

Buy Local

Buying food locally keeps small farms economically viable, keeps land in agricultural production, and preserves open space. Why spend money on produce brought 3000 miles when it can be purchased at your local farm just 10 miles away from June to October? At Brookside Family Farm we research seed catalogues and companies to find the best tasting varieties for flavor, eating quality, yield and disease resistance. Because we pick fresh daily for your delivery and our farm stand, we do not grow "shipping" varieties that you would find in a supermarket. That's what local farm-fresh is all about – tastier vegetables, juicier ripe fruit, and better quality food.

How We Grow

Most of Brookside Family Farm's produce is naturally grown. For a few crops that is not feasible. For these particular crops we use an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program. That means we utilize many strategies to avoid or solve a pest problem. In this program we scout the fields for insects and disease, we seek protection with beneficial insects and biological controls, we use disease resistant varieties, and bug-excluding row covers. If the problem reaches the economic injury level, where the pest problem would cause enough damage for us to lose money, then we use the safest pesticides. The farm soil is kept alive and fertile by plowing down soil building cover crops, compost, lime, and organic fertilizer.

The Risks of a CSA Membership

CSA members share the risks and rewards of the growing season. In the last few years we've been through both extremely wet and dry years, and we had abundant harvests and happy customers. Of course, major weather related catastrophes could really set us back. Each year, certain crops do better than others. We overcome the variability of the weather by planting multiple plantings of different varieties of dozens of crops. We have 3 different soil types that behave differently in different weather conditions, and we are able to irrigate our fields, allowing us to have an approximately 14 week growing season beginning in July and ending in October.

All CSA Members must be aware that the weather, over which we have no control, plays a major part in our production. Therefore, we may not have available, at all times, the vegetables and/or fruit on the distribution list. We will substitute appropriate fruits and/or vegetables accordingly. Each CSA Member must realize that our farm and its staff will work as hard as possible to meet your expectations. Your investment as a CSA Member will provide for your family the freshest fruits and vegetables during our growing season, while at the same time, your investment will support local family farming, allowing us to survive and grow in our changing economy.

Share Options

The *Standard Full Season Brookside Family Farm CSA Share* option is 16 weeks long and are available for pick up at the Farm. It is suitable for two to four people who eat vegetables and berries on a regular basis. The *standard share* consists of berries and vegetables.

Seasonal Price \$470.00

The *Small Share* option is 16 weeks long just like the standard share. Share can be picked up at the farm and consists of a smaller quantity of berries and vegetables and, is suitable for 2 people.

Seasonal Price \$270.00 if paid in full for the 16 weeks.

Pickup Locations

Shareholders can pick up at their produce at the Brookside Family Farm Stand on Saturday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. If you are away on vacation, share the wealth, plan on having a friend pick up your share. We will also have designated pick up points:

- Leominster Hospital Tuesday 11:AM–1:00PM
- Gardner Hospital - Wednesdays from 11:30AM–2:30PM
- Fitchburg Riverfront Park - Thursdays 3–6:PM
- Westminster Farmers Market Friday 3–6:PM
- Saturday pickup at farm 10:AM–12:Noon

Payment Options

Please include full payment with your application. If you wish to use a credit card, indicate that on the application and we can process that over the phone or put your card information on the application. We take Master Card or Visa. If you can't pay the full amount all at once, please pay 50% down and the remaining 50% by May 1st 2015.

2015 CROPS AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION, LISTED MONTHLY

Pick-up Distribution will begin the 3rd week of June and end the 2ⁿrd week in October.

JUNE lettuce, spinach, radish, broccoli, Swiss chard, sugar snap peas, early onions,

JULY Blueberries, lettuce, Swiss chard, sugar snap peas, summer squash, zucchini, green beans, wax beans, cucumbers (pickling or regular), eggplant, broccoli, sweet corn, tomatoes, green peppers , peaches.

AUGUST Blueberries, lettuce, Swiss chard, kale, collards, broccoli, tomatoes, sweet corn, summer squash, zucchini, green beans, wax beans, eggplant, cucumbers, (pickling cucumbers or regular) green peppers, peaches and nectarines.

SEPTEMBER Lettuce, Swiss chard, kale, collards, broccoli, tomatoes, sweet corn, summer squash, zucchini , winter squash, green beans, wax beans, eggplant, cucumbers, green and red peppers, collards, apples , onions, potatoes, cabbage.

OCTOBER Lettuce, beans (if still avail) tomatoes, winter squash, red, green, peppers, beets, swiss chard, apples, pumpkins, onions, potatoes, cabbage, parsnips, carrots, turnips.