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CSA Membership Agreement 2027

What is a CSA?

CSA stands for "community supported agriculture" in which members of the community purchase shares in a local farm. In return, members receive a weekly box of fresh vegetables (or other products, depending on the type of farm) throughout the growing season. This model has been used by many small farms to ensure their viability and vitality in providing local communities fresh, nutrient-dense produce. It also provides members a direct connection to the farmer, thereby promoting an understanding of the growing practices involved. Having access to a local food source ensures the freshest food while fostering less reliance on food systems (e.g., grocery stores) utilizing shipping over large distances.

Our Season

The 2027 Bass Root Farm CSA season is 22 weeks long (June through October) and pick up is every week* from June 3 – October 28. Full season and partial season shares are available. *Exceptions are when the farmers take a week off; members will receive a double share the week prior or after.

Our Growing Practices

We believe in the natural growth and production of nutrient-dense food. We begin by carefully selecting organic and non-GMO seed. Once planted, we avoid the use of artificial chemicals and fertilizers, focusing instead on natural inputs such as compost, animal manures, and cover crops for building a healthy soil base for plants to thrive. In addition, we are a "low to no-till" farm, meaning we avoid the use of heavy or regular tilling for the cultivation of the soil. We prefer to keep the soil in our growing beds intact, only mixing the top couple of inches when adding

amendments. This ensures that the networks of microorganisms, nutrients, and root systems remain established and active in the ecosystem.

Much of the seeding, transplanting, cultivation, and harvesting on our farm is done by hand, aided by hand tools. This allows us intimate contact with the environment in which we can observe firsthand the overall health of each crop and address issues immediately on the ground. We see this “feet on the ground” approach to farming as an essential obligation to land stewardship.

Weekly Share

Selecting the size share for your situation depends on a few factors. Begin by asking the following: What are your eating habits? Do you regularly eat vegetables as a snack and with meals? Do you want to eat more vegetables? Do you use vegetables for cooking and salads? How many people are in your household? How long would you like to have fresh vegetables during the year?

Full Season CSA (June 3 – October 28)
6 Months (22 weeks)

- **Jazztet** (4-6 items) – appropriate for small households, who prepare meals 3-4x per week, and who wish to supplement their own garden harvests with additional vegetables. A typical midseason offering might be broccoli, salad greens, carrots, tomatoes, peppers, and onion.
- **Symphony** (7-10 items) – appropriate for households who regularly prepare meals and want a wide variety of fresh vegetables. A typical midseason offering might be salad greens, beets, carrots, celery, green beans, kale, lettuce head, tomatoes, garlic, and peppers.

Summer Only (June 10 - September 9)
3.5 Months (14 weeks)

- **Summer Jazz** (4-6 items) – appropriate for small households, who prepare meals 3-4x per week, and who wish to supplement their own garden harvests with additional vegetables. A typical midseason offering might be salad greens, carrots, tomatoes, peppers, onion, and eggplant.
- **Bandstand** (7-10 items) - the best of our summer produce offerings, appropriate for households who regularly prepare meals and want a wide variety of vegetables.

Expected Produce

Spring – arugula, Asian greens, asparagus, cabbage, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onions, radish, snap peas, turnips, spinach

Summer – arugula, green beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, chard, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic kale, lettuce, onions, potatoes, peppers, summer squash, tomatoes

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Fall - arugula, Asian greens, Brussels sprouts, garlic, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onions, parsnips, potatoes, radish, radicchio, salad mix, spinach, winter squash

Pricing*

Signups for the CSA begin in November, providing us funds to invest in the season ahead by purchasing seeds, equipment, crop planning software, paying employees, etc.

Full Season (22 weeks) CSA Options:

- ***Symphony Share*** (7-10 items) = $990
- ***Jazztet Share*** (4-6 items) = $750

Partial Season (14 weeks) CSA Options:

- ***Bandstand Share*** (7-10 items, summer only) = $650
- ***Summer Jazz Share*** (4-6 items) = $490

Optional Addition (based on availability):

- One dozen eggs for full share: $175
- One dozen eggs for partial share: $110

***Food Assistance** – If you are interested in our produce and supporting our farm and can only afford partial payment for a share, please reach out to us.

Payment Schedule (select one)

- You can choose to pay in full

OR

- You can choose to pay in 4 installments:
    - Down payment of 25% of total share value at signup
    - Last three payments (25% each) due in June, July, and August.

Payment can be made by cash, personal check, credit card (with 4% processing fee), or Venmo (with 2% processing fee). (Returned checks will be charged a $25 fee.)

Share Flexibility

Produce Selections – Each week, we will send out an email sharing the CSA packing list for the week, detailing what items will be in each share. If you wish to make a change to your share

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(e.g., substituting an extra lettuce head for beets), please email or call us by Wednesday at noon. We will then make that adjustment for you.

Schedule - In the event you are going on vacation or need to pause your share for a period of time, you have two options: (a) donation, or (b) postponement. **Donation**: You may donate back to the farm or choose a family member or friend to take your share for that time. **Postponement**: You can choose to postpone your share and receive a double share for the corresponding amount of time when you resume. In either case, please email us and let us know which week(s) you wish to donate or postpone your share by the Wednesday before pick up. Shares not picked up will be donated.

Refund and Cancellation

CSA is a season-long commitment and relationship between the farmer and member. When you sign up, your payment is immediately invested in our farm through the purchase of seeds, soil amendments (compost), tools, etc. Because of this, we are unable to offer refunds if you choose to cancel your membership. If you choose to cancel, please contact us.

Sharing in the Risks and Rewards

Growing vegetables successfully requires the right environmental conditions. A major factor influencing these conditions are the seasonal weather patterns. If we experience poor weather and/or pest pressure, our crops may suffer and we may not have a large offering for a period of time. On the other hand, when we experience good weather and limited pest pressure, we may have an abundance of produce to share. Thus, you can expect limited items in times of erratic weather, and a surplus of items in times good weather. CSA members understand and share in such risks and rewards.

Share Pick Up

CSA Members will receive two Bass Root Farm insulated tote bags. Each week, we will pack one bag for you for which you can exchange your empty one from the previous week. Please remember to bring your bag back!

Shares can be picked up at one of three locations that you specify when signing up: (1) Bass Root Farm on Thursdays between 5:00-6:00 PM, (2) Fenton Skechers Lot behind Texas Roadhouse on Thursdays between 6:30-7:00 PM, or (3) Milford Ace Hardware lot area on Fridays between 9:00-9:30 AM.

Please note: If you need to make alternative arrangements for picking up your share (e.g., conflict with pick up time), please contact us prior to your pickup time. Left over shares will be donated.

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