

# Becoming a Member of Dharma's Garden

In the spirit of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), membership to Dharma's Garden is a relationship between our garden and you as our member. Rather than simply purchasing food as customers, members have a relationship with Dharma's Garden, which includes access to our products and services, as well as opportunities to participate in events and garden activities throughout the year.

## Summary of Membership

- Memberships last until the end of the calendar year.
- Dharma's Garden products, services, activities, and events are limited to current members or their accompanied guests, except as otherwise noted.
- Membership includes all named individuals in a household (partners, children, housemates, etc).
- We rely on the generous contributions from our community through membership fees in order to cover the significant costs associated with tending the land to produce this shared abundance.
- Membership is an expression of support for the garden and a gesture of engagement with the community.

## Benefits of Membership

- Access to the weekly market on Saturdays, 9am to 12pm, during the 2021 harvest season.
- Discounted pricing on select garden products and services.
- Opportunities to participate in garden activities throughout the year.
- Invitation to classes, workshops, and special events (pizza party, movie night, harvest dinner, etc).

## The 2021 Harvest Season

- Our harvest season runs for 18 weeks, from June 5th to October 2nd, 2021.
- We strive to have vegetables available for all 18 weeks of the harvest season. Availability of vegetables and herbs is not guaranteed, and selection will vary from week to week. If possible, we may try to open the market a week or two early, and/or extend a week or two later—we will let you know ahead of time if this is the case.
- Flowers are not considered an included benefit of membership. Flowers are typically only available mid-season, usually starting around the last week of June or first week of July, and tapering off toward the end of September. We send out an email announcement when flowers are available.

## Our Growing Practices

The farm currently is not certified. We do not use any chemical pesticides or fertilizers, and utilize only natural methods and substances in the garden. Our ducks and geese are fed certified organic feed, in addition to what they naturally forage around the farm. We are happy to tell you more, just ask!

## The Products We Expect for 2021

We intend to produce a wide variety this season, including greens, root vegetables, herbs, flowers, and fruits. Selection will vary each week, and of course weather, pests, and other events will affect actual production. We keep a list on our website of all varieties planted in the garden, and do our best to update this list as the season progresses. Produce (veggies, herbs, and flowers) as well as occasional other offerings which may include duck eggs, herbal products (salves, bath salts, etc), and canned or prepared foods will be available at the Saturday market and the Little Garden Stand.

## The Current Situation With This Land

As we begin the 2021 farm season, we are aware of the very significant predicament in which we find ourselves: the land on which we operate is for sale by the owner, and this is the last year of our lease. We currently face both the opportunity to secure this land permanently, as well as the risk of losing it forever. **Our main focus at the moment is to secure the funding needed to purchase and protect this land, so that our project may continue long into the future.** We are optimistic and enthusiastic about getting it done, and we need as much help and positivity from our whole community through the process. We ask for your support along the way, as we navigate what is surely to be an exciting and challenging year ahead!

## Our Shared Risk

Quantity and quality of harvest may vary from week to week, or season to season, due to weather, insects, disease, or other factors. Sometimes whole crops can be lost suddenly due to circumstances outside of our control. **By becoming a member, you are agreeing to share the risk of crop failure with us and other members.**

## Access to The Farm

- Dharma's Garden is open, during designated times, ONLY to "Members" and "Enthusiasts", or their accompanied guests (guests must sign a liability waiver before entering).
- **By becoming a member, you agree to take responsibility for ensuring that any guests you bring to the farm must sign a liability waiver before entering.**
- Except for regular posted events (classes, Saturday market, etc), access is by appointment only.
- Our weekly Saturday market OPENS at 9am and CLOSES at 12pm on Saturdays throughout the farm season. Produce at the market is available ONLY to MEMBERS.
- This year we intend to set out extra produce at our self-serve stand (AKA the "Little Garden Stand"), when available. This will depend entirely on current selection of extra produce at any given time. We will announce via email if/when produce is available at the Little Garden Stand.
- The 2021 harvest season BEGINS on June 5th and ENDS on October 2nd. Additional harvest days may be announced before or after these dates, depending on what's available.
- We invite Members to help with harvest and setup for the weekly Saturday market, which typically begins on Friday afternoons at 4pm and again on early Saturday mornings at 7am.

## Communicating with Us

- The best way to communicate with us is via email at [members@dharmasgarden.com](mailto:members@dharmasgarden.com). We will do our best to respond as soon as possible, though during busier times there may be a delay.
- We will communicate with you mostly by email. Please read your emails from us, and please add our email addresses to your contacts list so that we don't end up in your junk folder. We depend on being able to communicate important information such as market closures, availability updates, or upcoming events.
- We do our best to update our website with information about the crops available or other garden related news, but it may not always be up-to-date.