



22 Manville Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230

laura@farmgirlfarm.com (413) 528-1952

www.farmgirlfarm.com

November 15, 2011

Happy end of growing season, Farm Girl Farmers. And what a season it was. As this wild ride draws to a close, or at least a pause for winter, I am buoyed by your end-of-season thanks and appreciations—you reminded me that Community Supported Agriculture isn't just about growing vegetables but about growing community. And as we wrap-up and clean-up at the farm, we are receiving your comments, starting our winter classes and making plans for season eight at FGF. Here is information about Early Bird Renewal for your 2012 vegetable share.

WHAT IS EARLY BIRD RENEWAL?

Early Bird Renewal is an opportunity for 2011 Farm Girl Farm shareholders to buy next year's share at this year's price of \$600 (or summer share price of \$425) if you renew before December 31, 2011, and pay in full for your share. (If this isn't convenient, of course you can renew as a Regular Bird, later, at the 2012 price, which will include just a slight increase to reflect our operating costs).

HOW DOES RENEWING EARLY HELP FARM GIRL FARM?

Having cash *early* in the season is crucial to the farm operation. If you can rejoin the CSA before December 31 with a full payment, you will be helping Farm Girl Farm enormously by providing operating capital when we need it most—we're ordering seeds and materials now, we'll start paying for greenhouse heat in February--most of these expenses occur long before we see you in June for your first pickup. We are also a little the worse for wear from flood-related crop losses and still paying for the expenses of the current season's production.

HOW DOES RENEWING EARLY HELP YOU?

When you renew early, you infuse cash into operations at a crucial time, and that cash is worth exponentially more to us at this time of year—you're giving us leverage to do more at the farm for you sooner. You ensure your place at the FGF distribution table and you save a few dollars over next year's price.

WHY WILL THE 2011 SHARE COST MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S SHARE?

There are always incremental increases in the cost of production: Prices for seed and fuel increase each year and we're still growing and establishing our infrastructure, finding ways to be more efficient and effective growers. The wish list is long--from building a greenhouse for season extension and tomato production to extending our irrigation capacity, to improving our processing area for better post-harvest handling of the vegetables. As we grow, so grows our overhead. And of course as each season passes and FGF establishes itself as a viable business in Berkshire County, I endeavor to compensate the talented people who make it all happen just a tad bit better (love doesn't fill up the gas tank).

STILL GROWING STRONG!

It was one for the books! But what would vegetable growing be if it weren't as tumultuous and dramatic as Mother Nature herself? We're still learning, mastering and growing. As always, I am genuinely grateful to you, the members of Farm Girl Farm CSA—your participation has been the single most important ingredient in growing these vegetables and our story.



22 Manville Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230

413.528.1952

www.farmgirlfarm.com

TERMS OF 2012 VEGETABLE SHARE

(Please read and save for your records.)

A full-season's share includes 22 weeks of produce distributed weekly at the farm, June through November. A week's share will range from 5 to 16 pounds of vegetables depending on the season and the weather. This share size is best suited for 1-4 adults, depending heavily on personal veggie consumption and cooking habits.

Shares include a variety of pick-your-own (PYO) crops such as peas, beans, cherry tomatoes, fresh herbs and flowers, as available.

Shares also include a weekly newsletter with information about the farm as well as recipes and food preparation suggestions.

Members will choose to pick-up their shares at the farm on Tuesday afternoons, between 3 and 7 pm or on Saturday morning from 10 am-12 noon. **Members may not switch pick-up days.** In the event of a planned absence or lateness, you may have your share picked up by a friend or neighbor, or you may call before or during pick-up hours and ask us to bag up your share for you. We cannot store your share for more than 24 hours due to space constraints.

If you miss your pick-up day and we don't hear from you, we will donate your share to a worthy recipient and we'll see you the following week at your regularly scheduled pick-up day and time.

Full season early bird vegetable shares cost \$600; summer season early bird shares cost \$425. Payment must be received by December 31, in full, in order to qualify as early bird.

EARLY BIRD RENEWAL 2012

Please submit this form with your full payment by
December 31, 2011

Full season early bird share \$600
Summer season early bird share \$425

(As of January 1, full season and summer shares will increase to the 2012 price).

Names of all adults and children: _____

Billing address: _____

Telephone number(s): _____

E-mail addresses of ALL PARTICIPANTS: _____

I will pick up my veggies on: Tuesday 3-7 pm Saturday 10 am-12 noon
(please circle one)

I agree to the terms of membership outlined in the enclosed letter.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Please sign and return with payment to Farm Girl Farm, 22 Manville St., GB, MA 01230

**A signed renewal form (Early Bird until December 31, 2011)
and up-to-date payment is required in order for you to begin
picking up your veggies in June.**

**If you have friends who'd like to know about us, we'd like to know about them!
Please provide name and address here:**