

## BIRDSONG FARM 2016 CSA

In 2016 Birdsong Farm will offer a 20 week CSA season, which will begin the week of May 22nd, and will run through the end of October. There will be a three week hiatus to the CSA season during the first three weeks of July. In addition there will be a 7 week “post season” CSA offering to run weekly in November and December, until the week before Christmas. A limited number of these shares are available.

Birdsong Farm is USDA certified organic through OEFFA, certification #1754. Birdsong Farm is owned and farmed by Matt Herbruck

### CSA Memberships

\* Small Share- The small share is designed for an individual or a family of two or three and will include approximately \$20-\$24 worth of fresh, seasonal organic produce each week. The cost for this share is \$400.

\* Large Share- The large share is designed for families of four or more, and will include approximately \$30-\$35 of fresh, seasonal organic produce each week. The cost for this share is \$600.

- Post Season CSA- There is one size of share for the post season. The cost is \$125. In the post season your share is likely to include such cool weather and storage crops as kale, chard, spinach, cabbage, brussels sprouts, potatoes, onions, garlic, winter squash, turnips, carrots, turnips, beets, and others. You are, of course, invited to sign up for both an in season share and the post season. However, there will be fewer post season shares available overall.

\* Discount – Members who agree to receive their shares at either Hudson or on the farm for the entire season (see pick up options) will receive a \$25 discount on the price of their shares. A small share then becomes \$375 and a large \$575. Post season shares are not part of this discount as there is only the weekend option for pick up of those.

The dollar value examples for the weekly shares are simply meant to give you a rough idea of how much produce you get. During times of bounty in the season the shares are considerably larger than these estimates. However, in farming there are risks, and inevitably there will be a very few slim weeks. I am confident that you will find at the end of the season that your share was money well spent.

### RECEIVING YOUR WEEKLY SHARE

There are four ways to receive your weekly CSA share. Part of the fun of a CSA is getting to know the farm and the farmer that produces your food. For this reason, we encourage you to pick up your weekly share at our farm in Hiram Twp on Wednesdays from 1:00pm - 6:00 PM. However, many people have busy schedules that might prohibit an on farm pickup. To accommodate for this, you may choose to pick your share up at the Haymaker Farmer’s Market in Kent on Saturdays from 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M., at the Birdsong Farm produce booth. Also, you may choose to pick up your share at the Chagrin Falls Farmer’s Market on Sundays from 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. at the Birdsong Farm booth. In addition we will provide a delivery service to Hudson on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM.

This pick up will be at the parking lot of Christ Church Episcopal on Aurora St. Please understand that you'll need to choose just one of these options.

I will be a vendor at the Aurora Farmer's Market again this season and those of you who wish may choose to pick up your shares there for the weeks that market is open. It is only a twelve week market so be aware that for the rest of the weeks of the CSA you'll have to choose another of the locations.

The pick up options for the post season CSA are here at the farm on Saturday afternoons or at the Kent Winter Market at The United Methodist Church on East Main St., on Saturday mornings from 10:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M.

## RESERVING A CSA MEMBERSHIP

Membership spots will be filled on a first come, first serve basis, so sign up early by returning the enclosed Member Registration page. I will contact you to confirm your membership and the receipt of your dues. In the event all CSA shares are booked by the time you sign up, I will let you know and return your check post haste with regrets and many thanks.

## CSA PRODUCE FOR 2016

The following is a partial list of produce which might be included in your share, as well approximate seasonal dates.

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| *Lettuce ( four varieties)               | May-Nov.            |
| *Salad Mix                               | May-Dec.            |
| * Greens ( arugula, kale, chard, etc)    | May-Dec.            |
| * Peas ( shell, and snow)                | May, June           |
| *Potatoes ( several varieties)           | June-Dec.           |
| *Misc root crops (radish, beets, turnip) | June-Dec.           |
| *Spinach                                 | May, June, Oct-Dec. |
| *Tomatoes( heirloom, hybrid, cherry)     | July-Oct            |
| *Peppers (hot and sweet)                 | July-Oct            |
| * Eggplant                               | July-Sept.          |
| *Cucumbers                               | June-Sept           |
| *Zucchini & summer squash                | July-Oct            |
| *Beans                                   | July, Aug, Sept     |
| *Herbs (Basil, Parsley, Cilantro, Dill)  | July-Nov.           |
| *Onions (green and storage)              | July-Dec.           |
| *Garlic ( several varieties)             | July-Dec.           |
| *Carrots                                 | June-Nov.           |
| *Winter Squash                           | Oct-Dec.            |
| * Cut Flowers                            | July-Oct.           |

This is not meant to be a complete list of produce, only the ones that come to mind. You may likely find some other more exotic things in your weekly shares, possibly including shiitake mushrooms, asian cabbages, daikon radishes, specialty eggplants, and more. Absolutely 100% of the items in your share are grown by me and my small crew on my farm in Hiram Twp. It is all USDA certified organic. We buy nothing in to supplement our shares.

## A NOTE ABOUT THE HIATUS

The year 2015 was the hottest year on record. The warming of the planet is affecting many aspects of our lives. I have found over the last few seasons that reliable production of a wide variety of food crops is very difficult in midsummer at this latitude. In an effort to keep your weekly shares interesting and bountiful I feel the need to begin to shift away from midsummer production. Thus we'll begin a few weeks earlier than usual, in May, which has become a very nice month for growing. And we'll take a break for three weeks in July, resuming again the week of July 19th and continuing weekly until the last week of October.

## WEEKLY CONTACT

It is our goal this season to electronically distribute an informative and fun newsletter with up to date pictures, recipes, farm news and more. This will replace the weekly e-mails so heroically championed by Lisa Friel the last several years. Thank you Lisa! With the new format I hope to involve more of you in the goings on of the farm and in the exchange of recipes. At the least I hope it is a helpful glimpse in to our farm and your weekly share. You may also visit my website, [www.birdsongfarmohio.com](http://www.birdsongfarmohio.com), for frequent updates.

## HOW LOCAL IS LOCAL?

Birdsong Farm to Kent- 23 miles  
Birdsong Farm to Newton Falls- 12 miles  
Birdsong Farm to Shaker Heights -33 miles  
Birdsong Farm to Akron- 40 miles

Birdsong Farm to Hudson - 24 miles  
Birdsong Farm to Chagrin Falls- 22 miles  
Birdsong Farm to Cuyahoga Falls- 36 miles  
Birdsong Farm to Cleveland- 43 miles

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions ,or need further information, here is how to contact me: (330) 527-2653 (leave a message) or [matt@birdsongfarmohio.com](mailto:matt@birdsongfarmohio.com). The mailing address is :Matt Herbruck, Birdsong Farm, 11316 Wheeler Rd. Garrettsville, OH 44231. You can also visit the farm's web site at [www.birdsongfarmohio.com](http://www.birdsongfarmohio.com)