



Grounded in the word, grafted in the vine, bearing fruit for the kingdom.

Safe Haven Sustainable Farms Membership Agreement 2023

Safe Haven Sustainable Farms (SHSF) is a nonprofit farm that strives to produce healthy, fresh, naturally grown food in abundance while also training the next generation in food production, life skills and the keys to being a productive blessing to our communities across the world.

It is our goal to bring the community and the farmer together working hand in hand with what we have been given to sustain life and relationships in abundance.

Becoming a Part of our Farm

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a relationship between the farm and you as a member. It is a commitment that the farmer and the members make to each other: for the farmer to produce healthy, fresh and hopefully abundant food and for the member to support the farm through the seasons. The farm is open to members to enjoy. Please email us in advance to let us know if you would like to visit.

Member's Role

We hope to create a farm where all who are part of the farm are equally valued; without each other the farm could not exist. In this context, we describe those of us working on the farm as the active farmers and the broader community as members. The main role of the members is to provide the farmers with the support they need to carry out the daily operations of the farm. While this support could come in many forms, the most important is that the community makes an effort to understand the needs of the farm and is informed about our growing practices. The other means of support is an economic contribution from each of us that will meet the needs of the farm for a year.

The Seasons

Our CSA is open for 48 weeks from May to May. Members come to the farm each week to pick up their share of freshly harvested farm produce, PYO (pick your own) flowers, herbs, eggs, beef, poultry, lamb, bread and grain. All the food we offer through our CSA is grown on our farm unless otherwise specified.

We will be closed the weeks of May 23-29 and Sept. 29-Oct. 11 April 23-29/24 as these are times we host large non-CSA events.

Our Growing Practices

All of our produce is grown in accordance with natural practices and principles. We focus on improving the soil and maintaining the health of our crops using crop rotations as well as compost and other sustainable farm-produced amendments. Where that is not enough, we will bring in organic amendments as needed. Our beef and lamb are all grass fed only on a rotational pasture basis and supplemented with alfalfa when necessary. Our chickens are fed on farm produce, organic, grain-based feed and on rotational pasture.

Our Produce

We carefully create our crop plans in the winter, in order to provide you with all your vegetables for the week through the year. We grow a wide variety of crops that you will be able to choose from each week. We grow only sustainable heirloom or open pollinated crops, and do the best we can to save seeds each year in our efforts to avoid being dependent on outside sources. We do not grow hybrid produce. You will find that all our produce has those “old world” flavors which are greatly missed in today’s hybridized production. The season starts slower in the spring, with the largest abundance in the summer and fall. In the winter the variety will shrink again, but we do the best we can to extend the seasons with our green houses. We will have storage crops to offer and as much fresh produce as is possible. We take the safety of your food seriously. We carefully harvest and process your food so that it is as fresh and clean as possible. Most produce is lightly washed and packed in a clean container and stored at the appropriate temperature for maximum freshness and nutrient retention. For your added protection, please wash all your produce before eating and put frozen products in the freezer as soon as possible.

Our Animals

We take the work we do with our animals on the farm very seriously, and are very thankful for not only what they produce, but also what they contribute to the farm as a whole. With that in mind we treat them with the respect and care they deserve, and when harvest times come, we continue that process with utmost care. We harvest animals as close as possible to what one would call Kosher making sure to drain the blood, and we are very pleased with the quality this produces. Eggs will be available to members each week as long as the hens are laying. Laying hens will be offered as soup hens at the end of their laying cycle. Broiler chickens will be available monthly or more frequently to be picked up as fresh whole chickens on processing days for which you will be informed ahead of time. Beef and lamb will be available in frozen and wrapped cuts, but these will only be available in limited quantities as our herds and flocks grow.

Sharing in the Risk of Crop Failure

We promise to do our best to provide you with a bountiful share each week. The quantity of goods, however, may vary from week-to-week due to extreme weather, insects, or other production factors despite our best efforts. By joining our CSA you are agreeing to share in the risk of crop failure with us and other members.

Sharing in Reward of Crop Surplus

Our farm is exclusively a CSA farm, and all our production is planned for the CSA. When crops are especially abundant, we will let you know so that you can process or preserve them as you wish. After each pick up day, we often have excess produce. We feed the extra produce to all our animals, providing them with extra nutrition and nourishment. As we are a non-profit farm we also enjoy supporting food banks and other ministries with quality food, and it is an amazing feeling to be part of what makes that happen!

Give what you can, take what you need

We ask that the community meets the annual operating budget of the farm. Members will pay what they can. Some members will pay more than the average, and some less. When picking up your share

each week we ask that you take what you need for that week. What you take is not connected to what you pay. We realize that the openness can be challenging. Please ask us questions; we are happy to offer advice. We will also let you know if we feel that anyone is taking an unfair share of the harvest. This is a beautiful way to come together and practically bless our community.

Picking up Shares

Our pick up days are Sunday and Thursday from 2:30pm – 6:30pm. (From Oct. – March 14th we close at 6:00 pm.) You can come either day. If there is a time you are unable to come during pick up hours, please email us and we can pack a box that you can retrieve from the walk-in cooler when it fits your schedule. Or, you can arrange for someone to pick up your share if you cannot.

Selling a week of your share

You are welcome to sell a week of your share if you are unable to come for a week. However, we do ask that you explain how the CSA works so that the person purchasing your share arrive at the farm with an understanding of the process. Please communicate that the weekly fee is an average value and does not relate directly to what they choose to take of the offerings. Please communicate with them about the meat products and their limited supply and what they can take. Please know that if we have one-time offerings that week, we will save them for you instead of giving them to whomever you sell your share to.

Member Fees

We encourage yearly or monthly payments. You will receive a monthly invoice that we ask you to pay online. The CSA share is a one year commitment and is non-refundable. However, we do understand that things happen. If a change needs to be made, please contact us. We do ask that you continue your membership until we find a replacement together.

Average share price/member needed to meet the budget: **\$3750/member/year**, which translates to \$72.00/member/week or \$312 /member/Mo.

Half Shares

You are welcome to be a member of a half share which is virtually the same except you would come only every other week and be allotted half the produce.

We ask that you pay what you can, rather than directly relating your payment to the amount you take.

Please indicate your chosen **weekly fee** and if you would like to pay it monthly or annually:

To calculate your annual payment: “weekly fee” x 52 (52 weeks in a year)

To calculate your monthly payment: “weekly fee” x 52 ÷12

Events

We hope to be able to host a monthly member dinner that will be focused on great food and family fun.

Communicating with Us

The best way to communicate with us is via email. We will do our best to respond quickly, but please understand that we spend most of our time in the field growing your food and not at the desk. Please contact us with any changes to your postal or email address. Email address is: info.shfarms@gmail.com

We will communicate with you by email. When you sign up, you will be added to our distribution list. Please read your email from us. We depend on being able to communicate important information such as our farm events. Every week, we will email a newsletter giving you information about the crops available that week, recipe ideas or other farm related news.

By signing below, I agree to purchase the membership share for the season.

Name (please print): _____ Date: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

After filling out and signing this form please email to: info.shfarms@gmail.com