

# CARETAKER FARM SUMMER CSA 2024 MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

## (Early June-Late October)

Please sign this Pledge after you have read it thoroughly and return it with the requested information. Also, please include a \$100 deposit with your farm to hold your space. If you have questions about your membership or the farm, please email Don Zasada at don@caretakerfarm.org.

### JOINING THE FARM

Community members “share in the harvest” by paying a membership fee up front to cover annual expenses. In return, from early June through the end of October members collect a weekly share of fresh, organically grown produce and additional pick-your-own crops. Shareholders are partners with the farmer in growing food for the community.

### Your Share Includes:

- Weekly choice of freshly harvested vegetables (early June-late October). Our 2023 harvests included 7 varieties of head lettuces, 7 varieties of baby lettuce, 4 varieties of Asian greens, bok choy, spinach, spring turnips, 2 varieties of spring radishes, red, white, golden, and chioggia beets, orange and purple carrots, white/red/yellow onions, leeks, yellow squash, middle eastern squash, zucchini squash, pie pumpkins, delicata squash, butternut squash, garlic, celeriac, parsnips, rutabagas, 2 varieties of daikon radish, cucumbers, slicing tomatoes, kohlrabi, collards, red, purple and white potatoes, sweet potatoes, melons, Napa cabbage, red cabbage, green cabbage, curly kale, garlic, and others.
- Pick-Your-Own annual herbs (basil, dill, cilantro, parsley), 12 perennial herbs, 5 mints, over 20 varieties of annual flowers, raspberries, snap peas, pesto basil, wax beans, green beans, edamame, cherry tomatoes, saladette tomatoes, husk cherries, tomatillos, canning tomatoes, brussels sprouts, and others.
- Opportunities to buy our freshly baked pastries and breads, Non-GMO free-range eggs, and meats.
- Access to the farm for recreational use.
- Invitations to our farm workshops, events, and seasonal celebrations.
- Weekly newsletter with recipes, farm news, and distribution updates.

**PICK-UP SCHEDULE: Early June through late October.** Members collect their vegetables once a week on either Tuesdays or Fridays between 1:00 PM and 5:45 PM; or on Saturdays between 8:00AM and 11:45 AM.

**HELPING ON THE FARM:** Every adult member is asked to volunteer two hours per season to help on distribution days, work in the gardens, or assist the farm in other ways.

**MAY I SHARE A SHARE?** Every adult in a household must be a member of the farm regardless of their affection for vegetables or the farm. Likewise, people from two or more households may all join the farm together and take turns picking up the share of food, provided they have all paid the Membership fee of \$110 each. They may alternate pick-up days or come together in one car, but the share must be collected at one time and divided off the farm. All adults in every household must be full-fledged members of the farm.

### SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

At Caretaker Farm, we are committed to growing food in ways that care for and protect the total ecosystem: its flora and fauna, cropland, hedgerows, meadows, woods and streams. The farm is cared for as a living organism, whose elements work together to build and maintain soil fertility and the diverse ecosystem that nurtures all life. Through balanced crop rotations and a strict composting and cover cropping system, we are preserving and protecting important land for future generations. We do not spray chemical fertilizers, herbicides, or insecticides, whether they are allowable under the USDA organic standards or not.

### CARETAKER FARM SHARE FUND

Everyone, regardless of their financial situation, should have access to locally grown, high quality produce and the opportunity to know the land that grows their produce. We have priced our shares so that they are below what you would pay in a grocery store or farmer’s market. Every year some farm members have inquired about the possibility of donating money towards a share for a family in need, and there are some families who require assistance to pay for a share. We have therefore created a fund that will allow you to help subsidize a share for another family, or request assistance for your own family (up to 20% of the total fee). We are able to assist according to the money that has been donated to the fund. There are spaces on the membership form to indicate your donation or your need.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH A \$100 DEPOSIT**

First and last names of all adults (over 21) in your household or who will be sharing your share (**Every adult in a household must be a member of the farm regardless of their affection for vegetables or the farm**):

\_\_\_\_\_

First Names of children

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (to receive newsletter): \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Community fee:** \$110 X \_\_\_\_\_ # of Adults = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Share fee:** 1 unit (one bag / week) \$595 \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_

**Working share option: (deduct \$50)** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Need to work an extra 10 hours on the farm)

**Total Cost of Membership** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation to Caretaker Farm Share Fund** \_\_\_\_\_  
(\*suggested increments of \$25)

**I/We would like to request financial assistance** \_\_\_\_\_  
(up to 20% of share cost)

**PAYMENT OPTIONS\*:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I (we) will pay the complete Pledge now

\_\_\_\_\_ I (we) will pay 1/2 of my (our) Pledge by May 1<sup>st</sup> and 1/2 by July 1<sup>st</sup>

Please speak with us if you require a different payment option.

**PLEDGE:**

**I/We have read all the information on this pledge form and agree to share the risks and responsibilities of membership in Caretaker Farm Summer CSA for the 2024 season.**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to **Caretaker Farm**

Mail this pledge with your deposit: Caretaker Farm, CSA 1210 Hancock Rd., Williamstown, MA 01267  
For further information please contact Don: [don@caretakerfarm.org](mailto:don@caretakerfarm.org) or (413) 458-9691