

# UUCE Exploring Community Supported Agriculture

## Why Is Community Supported Agriculture Important?

- CSA's direct marketing gives farmers and growers the fairest return on their products.
- CSA keeps food dollars in the local community and contributes to the maintenance and establishment of regional food production.
- CSA encourages communication and cooperation among farmers.
- With a "guaranteed market" for their produce, farmers can invest their time in doing the best job they can rather than looking for buyers.
- CSA supports the biodiversity of a given area and the diversity of agriculture through the preservation of small farms producing a wide variety of crops.
- CSA creates opportunity for dialogue between farmers and consumers.
- CSA creates a sense of social responsibility and stewardship of local land.
- CSA puts "the farmers face on food" and increases understanding of how, where, and by whom our food is grown.

**LocalHarvest**  
real food, real farmers, real community

New Members  
sign up here

user login view basket

Home Shop Farms CSA Forum Events Newsletter Photos

### Community Supported Agriculture (And Other Farm Subscriptions)

Many farms offer produce subscriptions, where buyers receive a weekly or monthly basket of produce, flowers, fruits, eggs, milk, coffee, or any sort of different farm products.

A CSA, (for Community Supported Agriculture) is a way for the food buying public to create a relationship with a farm and to receive a weekly basket of produce. By making a financial commitment to a farm, people become "members" (or "shareholders," or "subscribers") of the CSA. Most CSA farmers prefer that members pay for the season up-front, but some farmers will accept weekly or monthly payments. Some CSAs also require that members work a small number of hours on the farm during the growing season.

A CSA season typically runs from late spring through early fall. The number of CSAs in the United States was estimated at 50 in 1990, and has since grown to over 1000.

**More on Farm Subscriptions (CSA):**  
■ [What is Community Supported Agriculture?](#)

**Featured Product:**  
[Heirloom Seeds](#)

**Food/Farm Events**  
Jan-2007

31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

**Find CSA Farms**

Where?  
Zip/City or State...

Legend:  
■ Farm ■ Farm Market ■ Restaurant ■ Grocery ■ Other

Source: [www.localharvest.org](http://www.localharvest.org)

## Join our dialogue. Speak with:

- ◆ Becca Gagne [strivin@wildmail.com](mailto:strivin@wildmail.com)
- ◆ Jim Fisher [bassoon@gwi.net](mailto:bassoon@gwi.net)
- ◆ Sara Hayman [shayman@hospiceofhancock.org](mailto:shayman@hospiceofhancock.org)
- ◆ Jane Freeman [jfreeman@healthypeninsula.org](mailto:jfreeman@healthypeninsula.org)
- ◆ Kay Wilkins [kwilkins@alumnet.wilkins.edu](mailto:kwilkins@alumnet.wilkins.edu)

