

Dear Members

Happy 2010 to all of you. We hope that it has begun and continues to be a wonderful year for you and your families. Believe it or not, it is that time of year to think about summer produce and all of the warmth and joy that comes with it.

We had a terrific season in 2009 and were so happy that you were such a part of it. As you may know, we usually fill up by the end of March, and we anticipate it will be similar this season. Since you are returning members, you will get priority on the shares this year. Sign-ups will begin as soon as you receive this letter. The registration forms are posted on our website: www.earthdancefarm.net under links and forms. Please fill out the Membership Renewal form and send it back land mail with payment. We will hold a spot for you until March 1. Please let us know if you will not be participating this season.

New for 2010:

- 1) Share boxes this year will be $\frac{3}{4}$ bushel instead of the full bushel. There is only one other CSA that we know of that delivers the bushel box. It is important for us to remain competitive in this market. We have done an analysis of other local CSAs to make sure we are in line. We need to make a living off the farm and also be sensitive not to undercut other farmers who are trying to do likewise. This will result in a somewhat smaller overall quantity of produce. I figure that about half of the deliveries will be of comparable amount to last year with more attention paid to strategic packing and harvesting some crops when they are a bit smaller. During the latter half of the season the quantity will be a bit less than before. I would like to keep the variety (# of different crops) the same with a smaller amount of each. This may be good news for many of you who struggled with what to do with all the veggies every week. Others of you I know can't receive enough. Some of you may decide you can handle your own box now instead of splitting. Please contact us with any comments or feedback.
- 2) Prices will remain the same as last season for all group pick-ups and hosts of group sites. Individual home delivery has gone up to \$575. Host drop sites must have 5+ deliveries to qualify for a reduced rate.
- 3) Payment is due in full upon registration with one check per share.
- 4) The newsletter will be electronic only this year. It will be posted on the website on each Wed. evening and will also be emailed to the main contact of each share. We will also have a Facebook site and farm blog to assist in building connections.
- 5) We will host 3 camping weekends the 4th weekend of June, July and Aug. and member work days the 2nd Friday of those months. Stay updated via our website!

Please fill out our annual evaluation for the 2009 produce season. It is posted on our website. You can fill it out online and email it back or send it in with your registration/payment.

Much warmth from our home to yours,

Norm, Laurie, Noah and Adriana

