



HUNTER PARK GARDEN HOUSE

Spring Greens CSA 2017 Information Packet

Our CSA

Thanks for your interest in the Hunter Park GardenHouse Spring Greens CSA! We love growing veggies year-round and teaching folks how to grow them! We put a lot of thought into what goes into a share, and we've seen three successful Spring Greens seasons so far. We utilize sustainable growing practices and stringent food safety measures, so you can be sure our produce is safe and healthy for you and your family.

The **Spring Greens CSA program and Add-On Items** will run for a nine week session, **February 15 - April 12**.

In the share each week, members will receive:

- A bag of Salad mix and a bunch of Cooking Greens (Kale, Collards, and Swiss chard).
- A newsletter with healthy recipes utilizing the produce, and upcoming food and garden-related events.

Add-On Shares

We offer add-on items to further increase the diversity of items in your box. We partner with local farmers and producers who participate in the Allen Market Place Exchange to offer eggs, bread, coffee, black beans, and meats! See the payment worksheet for further details.

Cost & Payment

There are two payment options for the Spring Greens CSA:

1. **Lump Sum:** Pay full balance (\$90) at the start of the program (Check or Credit only). Due no later than **January 27, 2017**.
2. **Weekly SNAP Payments:** For SNAP & Double Up Food Bucks payments only. Pay at the point of pick-up for your share (\$10/week). \$20 deposit (payable by Check or Credit) due no later than **January 27, 2017**. The \$20 deposit will be forfeited if you drop out mid-season, otherwise it will be applied to the final two weeks of the Spring Greens CSA. *SNAP can only be accepted at point-of-sale (not in advance or after).*

***You are responsible for paying for each share, even if you miss a pick up. SNAP can only be accepted at point-of-sale (not in advance or after).**

Checks made payable to: Allen Neighborhood Center (Spring Greens CSA in the memo line). Drop off at or mail to: 1611 E. Kalamazoo Street Lansing, MI 48912.

Harvest & Pick Up

Harvest takes place on Wednesday mornings from 10am-12pm. All members are welcome to volunteer during the CSA harvest (an ANC Volunteer Application and Background Check waiver must be completed).

Shares are available for **pick-up on Wednesdays from 3:30-6:00pm** at the Allen Market Place (1629 E. Kalamazoo St).

Produce will be packaged in a reusable box labeled with your name. Empty boxes must be returned at each pick-up, and at the end of the season which helps us ensure a low environmental impact while minimizing program costs.

If you are unable to pick up your share during the available time, you must make prior arrangements with the GardenHouse Director; otherwise your share may be forfeited. If you know you're going to be out of town, or unable to make the scheduled pick-up time, we encourage you to coordinate with family, friends, or neighbors to pick up your share during the scheduled time.

Volunteering

We are always excited about extra hands helping in the garden. Throughout the season, there is an endless amount of weeding, planting, harvesting, and other tasks to be done. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering at the GardenHouse, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 517-999-3919 or volunteer@allenneighborhoodcenter.org

What Makes Our CSA Special

You are supporting programs of the Hunter Park GardenHouse.

Your CSA membership funds programs that serve our community. We host regular garden education workshops & courses, are open 6 days a week to the public, and serve as a demonstration site for garden, sustainability, and entrepreneurial projects. Our after school and summer youth programs, Take Root and Youth Service Corps, teach youth job and life skills through community service projects and garden and nutrition education. A significant portion of the CSA revenues are used to support these programs because that's what we're all about.

We are inclusive of our neighbors.

We offer multiple payment options to include those who otherwise might not be able to afford membership in a CSA. We are one of a few CSAs accepting SNAP (Bridge Cards) for payment. Credit and SNAP tokens can be purchased at the Market Bank in the Allen Farmers Market.

We support other farmers and food producers.

We offer a variety of add-on shares from local farmers and food producers to get their high-quality products in the hands of customers. We work with these businesses to ensure they receive fair prices for their products.

You pick up at the Allen Neighborhood Center during the Allen Farmers Market.

Each week you'll get a chance to enjoy the Allen Farmers Market and support other local vendors if there are other items you'd like to purchase. It's a one-stop shop for all your local food needs. It's also a great place to catch up with friends and neighbors.

What Our Members Are Saying About Our CSA

"It encourages me to eat healthier because I regularly receive healthy ingredients and a recipe."

"I love the convenience of fresh food."

"I look forward to my 'meal in a box' each week."

Words of Wisdom

CSA is not for everyone. One of the cornerstones of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is shared risk. "The essence of the relationship," as Elizabeth Henderson states in *Sharing the Harvest*, "is the mutual commitment: The people support the farm and share the inherent risks and potential bounty." Part of the mystique associated with being involved in a CSA comes from the organic uncertainty surrounding the fact that, because of factors beyond our control, we cannot guarantee what exactly will be in your share each week. If you know that you are not fond of trying new things, or you head out of town every week, or you aren't up for shared risks, you might be happier just visiting the Allen Farmers Market and picking out what you know you'll use.

So, think about it, discuss it. You are signing a binding contract. Ask questions, ask other CSA members. We want your CSA experience to be a good one and we work hard to insure that it is. With the GardenHouse share we are here, open to chat or hear constructive criticism, issues, problems and work with you to make your CSA experience a positive one.

Thank You for Supporting the Hunter Park GardenHouse!

If you have any questions, contact Hunter Park GardenHouse Director, Rita O'Brien, at 517-999-3910 or ritao@allenneighborhoodcenter.org

Hunter Park GardenHouse Spring Greens 2017 CSA Application

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Emails: _____

Check the option that applies:

- I am a returning CSA member. Last season/year you participated in the CSA? _____
- I am applying for the first time. How did you hear about us? _____

Payment Information: Please check one payment option.

- Lump Sum:** Pay your whole balance (\$90) at the start of the program. Check or Credit only, due no later than **January 27, 2017.**
- Weekly SNAP Payment:** Pay at the point of pick-up for your share. SNAP (Bridge Cards), and Double Up Food Bucks only. \$20 deposit (payable by check or credit) due no later than **January 27, 2017.**

Add On Shares:

- Select which add-on shares you'd like on attached worksheet.

Agreement

- I wish to join the Hunter Park GardenHouse Spring Greens CSA and I have read and understood the program description.
- I agree to check in on the sign-in sheet before each pick-up and only take what is allotted in that week's share.
- I agree to bring my empty box back each week.
- I agree to adhere to the pick-up time of Wednesday 3:30-6:00pm. I understand that failure to pick up my share during pick-up times may constitute forfeiture of that share.
- I agree to communicate immediately to the GardenHouse Director any changes in my commitment to this agreement.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please fill out the application & agreement forms and mail in or drop off at our office. **If accepted, you will receive a confirmation from the GardenHouse Director.** Please keep a copy for your records.

Allen Neighborhood Center
Attn: Hunter Park GardenHouse Spring Greens CSA
1611 E. Kalamazoo Street
Lansing, MI 48912

If you have any questions, please contact Hunter Park GardenHouse Director, Rita O'Brien at (517) 999-3910 or email ritao@allenneighborhoodcenter.org

Spring Greens CSA 2017 Payment Worksheet

Pick one of the following options for the Vegetable Share: 1 box of fresh local produce, weekly for 9 weeks, February 15- April 12.			
Option	Price	QTY	Total Price
Lump Sum Payment	\$90		
Weekly SNAP Payment Deposit	\$20		

Add On Shares: you can select multiple quantities of each of the add-on shares. Add-on shares must be paid in full by January 27.				
Item	Description	Price	QTY	Total Price
Brown Eggs	<i>1 dozen bi-weekly, for five distributions.</i> From Grazing Fields Cooperative (Charlotte, MI), A multi-farm cooperative of small to mid-sized local farmers who are dedicated to raising healthy, happy hens that are pasture raised and cage-free.	\$19		
Bread	<i>1 loaf every week, for nine distributions.</i> From Stone Circle Bakehouse (Holt, MI). Delicious artisan bread that is gently mixed, slowly fermented, hand-shaped, and baked in a wood-fired oven.	\$47.25		
Coffee	<i>1 pound bag of whole beans bi-weekly or monthly, for five bi-weekly distributions or three monthly distributions.</i> From Rust Belt Roastery (Lansing, MI). With an Italian roaster from the 1930's, this wood-roasted coffee is delicious, Certified Fair Trade and Organic, and from 1 of only 8 wood-roasted coffee producers in the U.S.!	\$87.50 (biweekly) \$52.50 (monthly)		
Dry Black Beans	<i>1 pound bag monthly, for three distributions.</i> From Ferris Organic Farms (Onondaga, MI). This family farm has been around since 1837 and is certified organic.	\$9		
Meat Variety	<i>1 package of frozen meat every week, for nine distributions.</i> From producers dedicated to raising their animals humanely. From Stone E. River Ranch (Eagle, MI), Trillium Wood Farm (Williamston, MI), Heffron Farms (Belding, MI), and Grazing Fields Cooperative (Charlotte, MI). Includes one pound packages of pork chops, breakfast sausage, bacon (no additives), hot Italian sausage, chicken leg & thigh, ground beef patties, and ground beef. You will also receive larger items such as: boneless chuck roast, and whole chicken.	\$94		
Chicken	<i>1 package of frozen chicken bi-weekly, for five distributions.</i> From Stone E. River Ranch (Eagle, MI) and Trillium Wood Farm (Williamston, MI). Includes whole chickens, chicken breast, legs & thigh, and half-chicken.	\$74		
Beef	<i>1 package of frozen beef bi-weekly, for five distributions.</i> From Heffron Farms (Belding, MI). Originally settled in 1921 by Thomas and Cecelia Heffron, they are in their fourth generation of being good stewards of the land. Includes ground beef, ground beef patties, boneless chuck roasts, and beef brisket.	\$60		
Pork	<i>1 package of frozen pork bi-weekly, for five distributions.</i> From Grazing Fields Cooperative (Charlotte, MI). Includes pork chops, breakfast sausage, bacon (no additives), bratwurst, and pork shoulder.	\$56		

Total Payment Due by January 27, 2017: _____

I will be paying via: Check (payable to Allen Neighborhood Center)
 Credit Card (via phone: 517-999-3910)

Please submit this worksheet with application & payment to:

Allen Neighborhood Center Attn: Hunter Park GardenHouse Spring Greens CSA (1611 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48912)

Questions? Contact Rita: 517-999-3910, ritao@allenneighborhoodcenter.org