



## **Crossroads Multi-Farm CSA Description EBT/SNAP Member Terms**

### **1.) Becoming a Part of Our CSA**

Crossroads Community Food Network is building a healthier, more inclusive food system in the Takoma/Langley Crossroads. At the heart of this integrated network of food growers, makers, and consumers is Crossroads Farmers Market, where nutrition incentives make healthy food more affordable to more people, and where a consistent demand for fresh fruits and vegetables has helped make local, small-scale sustainable farming more economically viable. Crossroads is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that originated the idea of using private funds to double the value of federal nutrition benefits like SNAP (formerly food stamps), WIC, and senior assistance vouchers so that low-income shoppers can stretch their food budgets to bring the freshest and healthiest produce home to their families.

Crossroads Farmers Market is a lively community gathering space for people of all backgrounds and incomes, held on Wednesdays from 11am-3pm on Anne. St. at University Blvd. East in Takoma Park. Our CSA (community supported agriculture) program that brings locally grown fruits and vegetables, handmade products, and other farm-fresh goodies from multiple Crossroads farmers and vendors directly to members.

Each week, members pick up an assortment of seasonal fruits and vegetables bursting with flavor from the Crossroads Farmers Market between the hours of 11-3pm. On the day before pickup each week, members receive an e-newsletter detailing that week's items, as well as recipes and cooking tips. This year our CSA, like our market, runs for 31 weeks, from May 31 through December 27.

Members are responsible for showing up at the Crossroads Farmers Market each week to pick up their share of freshly harvested produce and other market goods. You will generally receive 3-6 types of vegetable items and 1-2 types of fruit items, equivalent to one half bushel of produce. We will continue to offer just this one share size, but encourage larger families to consider purchasing two or more shares.

### **2.) Growing Practices of Participating Farmers**

CSA members receive items from local farmers and vendors who sell at Crossroads Farmers Market, including Potomac Vegetable Farms, Montoya's Farm, Toigo Orchards, and Tuckey's Mountain Grown. We prioritize produce from farms that use organic practices and/or low spray orchard methods. For more information about the production practices of Crossroads farmers, please visit their websites and/or ask us. We'd be happy to tell you more.

### **3.) 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 produce, however, may vary from week to week due to extreme weather, insects, or other production factors despite our farmers' best efforts. By joining our CSA, you are agreeing to share the risk of crop failure with us and other members. In the unlikely event of a crop failure, our procedure is as follows: We may cover for a crop loss by buying from other Crossroads farmers. This may not be a feasible option for all crops because of cost or widespread failure.

### **4.) Picking up Shares**

You are responsible for picking up your share each week from your chosen pickup site during the specified time frame. If you are paying with SNAP/EBT, your pickup site is:

**Crossroads Farmers Market, Anne Street at University Blvd. East, 11-3pm.**

If you are paying with SNAP/EBT, you are responsible for payment at the time of pick-up. Payment for the share must be completed at the EBT ATM table at the market before the share can be taken away from the market. Please bring your own reusable bag with you and transfer your produce into it, leaving the box at the site.

If you cannot pick up your share, either arrange for someone else to pick it up for you or notify the CSA coordinator with at least 48 hours' notice, and we will donate it to an in-need member of the Crossroads community or it will be sold at the market. If you arrange for someone else to pick it up for you, you are responsible for explaining the pickup location and procedures to your substitute.

### **5.) Communicating with Us**

The best way to communicate with us is by emailing the CSA Coordinator, Liz Whitehurst, at [lwhitehurst@crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org](mailto:lwhitehurst@crossroadscommunityfoodnetwork.org). Please contact us with any of the following: changes to your mailing email address, problems with your pickup site, or dissatisfaction with your share. We will do our best to respond as soon as possible.

When you sign up for a CSA membership, you will be added to an email list so that you can receive a weekly email newsletter during market season that includes information about that week's fruit and vegetable selections, recipe ideas, and other announcements. Please read the weekly newsletter; we depend on being able to communicate important information or news concerning the CSA if necessary.

Although unlikely, Crossroads Community Food Network may change parts of this agreement related to production and distribution of share items; if this happens, you will be contacted via email in advance of any changes to this agreement.

When joining the Crossroads Multi-Farm CSA, you are also acknowledging that you have read and agree to the terms of this agreement.