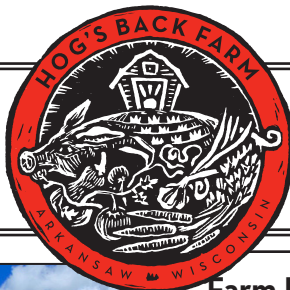


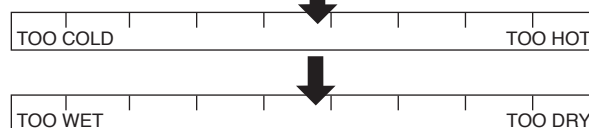
Hog's Back Handbook

June 2, 2016



Farm Report 6/2/2016

Rainfall 1.24"
High Temperature 80°
Low Temperature 50°
Farmer Complaint Indicators™:



Welcome

Hello everyone and welcome to the 2016 season at Hog's Back Farm. Our first share deliveries of the season will be next Thursday, June 9! Please mark it on your calendar. Please take the time before the first delivery to read through the handbook since there are always changes and tweaks each year. Email me with questions, it's much easier to clarify and answer questions now than at 7pm on the night of the first delivery!

What's new for 2016?

The biggest change is the offering of a half share in 2016. A half share consists of picking up the regular box every-other-week. Sometimes I do refer to it as the EOW share as well. Nine boxes, every-other-week. At the end of the handbook is a calendar with all the share deliveries for the year. If you're an EOW member, you'll be assigned to either the Yellow weeks or the Blue weeks for the season. The pickup site checkoff sheet will match the color of what week it is, so if you're a Yellow week and the checkoff sheet is Blue, you are there on the wrong week.

We always have a lot of requests for fruit. Last year we couldn't get blueberries from the farmer we'd been getting them from, so this year I've lined up a grower in southwest Michigan. If all goes well we will be able to offer blueberries and peaches from him and maybe some other things as well. I'm still trying to figure out some of the logistics, so keep an eye out in the emails for more info. Another thing

we'll be offering this year is the chance to purchase some nuts and dried fruits from a company called Terrasoul. If your family is like ours you prefer nuts and fruit as a healthful snack. We've had a hard time finding organic raw nuts and dried fruit that were high quality, which is how I tracked down the folks at Terrasoul. We've sampled some of their products and have been very happy with the quality and price. Again, look for more info in the emails.

One last change is the location of the Wooddale pickup site. Due to construction at their house, the McCarrens are taking a year off and the pickup site has moved to the Thornton's house at 4225 Wooddale.

What are my responsibilities as a member of Hog's Back Farm?

The single most important thing (besides enjoying their veggies) members can do during the season is to read the newsletter. The newsletter is emailed to everyone on Thursdays. It and the accompanying email will have any pertinent info for the week. Read the email too, because it will have any last minute changes. If you're not receiving the newsletter it means we don't have your email in the system. Our whole system works on email addresses, so we need everyone's email address who wants to receive the newsletter. Have the person who signed up for the share click on 'Update your membership' on the bottom of our homepage. It will ask for their email and then send them a link to access their account. Once there they need to click 'Add another user to this membership' and enter their info.



Your other general responsibilities are:

- 1) You agree to make a financial contribution to the farm in the spring for that season's share of vegetables.
- 2) You agree to pick up your share each week at the location and times specified, unless prior arrangements have been made.
- 3) You agree to transfer your veggies to bags at the pickup site and leave the box behind.

What do I do when I pick up my share?

When you pick up your share you will take one new box from the stack at the pickup site, open it up and transfer the produce to grocery bags, or if you have some cloth bags, or your own box, that works well too. Please bring bags with you to the pickup site because there are not always bags available. There will be a clipboard with a list of members at the site. It is very important that you check your name off of the list so that we know you picked up your share. Please be careful checking off your name so that you check the right box, and please don't let children check off your name which can lead to confusion. The checklist is how we determine who hasn't picked up their share at the end of the night, so keeping it neat and tidy is helpful.

Below is a picture of one of our boxes. When they're closed they stack on top of each other, when open they nest inside of each other. Help us keep the pickup sites neat and avoid confusion by nesting empty boxes inside of each other in one or two stacks, do not close the lids on empty boxes or they get mistaken for full ones and chaos ensues!

Please keep in mind that the pickup site hosts have graciously offered their homes and their time to host a pickup site for you. Keep it neat and organized and we all benefit.

If I'm splitting a share can I just go to the pickup site and take my part out of our box?

No. This is our single biggest source of pickup site problems. To avoid confusion at the pickup sites it is important that people who are splitting shares take the entire share with them and agree to meet whomever they're splitting with to divide the share. There cannot be share boxes left at the pickup site with only a partial share left in them because they do get taken by mistake by people who have paid for a full share. It is o.k. to split the share into grocery bags and leave the split half clearly labeled for the folks you split with.



When do I pick up my share?

Share pickup times vary by pickup site. Shares are dropped off in a loop starting with South Minneapolis, St. Louis Park sites, Humboldt, and St. Paul. Here are approximate times when your shares should be ready for pickup. If you need to pick up your share earlier it may not be available, or your pickup site host may not be able to accommodate you coming earlier, please contact them or David if this is an issue.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 4411 18th Ave, Minneapolis | 1:30pm |
| 5512 Columbus Ave, Minneapolis | 2:00pm |
| 4544 Zenith Ave S, Minneapolis | 2:15pm |
| 3916 Colorado Ave, St. Louis Park | 2:30pm |
| 4225 Wooddale Ave, St. Louis Park | 2:45pm |
| 3936 Natchez, St. Louis Park | 3:00pm |
| 4740 W 27th St, St. Louis Park | 3:15pm |
| 4001 Highwood, St. Louis Park | 3:30pm |
| 2445 Humboldt, Minneapolis | 4:00pm |
| 1686 St. Clair, Saint Paul | 4:30pm |
| 1184 Hague, Saint Paul | 4:45pm |
| Whole Earth Grocery, River Falls | 4:00pm |

Please be patient if we are not there right on time. Rarely are we more than ten minutes late, things do go wrong some mornings, and traffic can be an issue. The shares are available for pickup at all sites until 7pm.

What do I do if I'm going to be late?

If you are going to be unable to make it by 7pm you must make prior arrangements. Shares that are left past 7pm will be taken somewhere where the food will get used. The best solution is to have someone pick up the share for you if you are unable to pick it up yourself. IF YOU CANNOT MAKE IT ON TIME AND WILL BE LATE TO PICK UP YOUR SHARE YOU MUST LET THE PICKUP SITE HOST KNOW SO THAT THEY DO NOT GIVE AWAY YOUR SHARE. If they do not hear from you they are authorized to give away your share after 7pm. You do not need to contact us if someone else is picking up your share for you, unless they will be picking it up late. Please explain the procedure for picking up your share to whoever picks it up for you, there is not always someone available at the pickup site to answer questions. This handbook is also always available on the website, just go to the homepage and click on the Handbook tab. Please be respectful and courteous by picking up your share on time. We rely on the goodwill of the people who host the pickup sites and appreciate your cooperation.

What do I do if I'm going on vacation?

Again the easiest solution is to have a neighbor or friend pick up your share, or it makes a nice reward for the house-sitter or mail-collector. You do not need to contact us if someone else is picking up your share, just let them know how to do it. Alternately you may opt for us not to pack your box during that time, or to donate your share to a nearby food shelf. If you would like to pursue either of these options please let us know by email at least a week in advance.

What else will be available for purchase at the share pickup?

Beginning in 2013 with online ordering, we no longer offer items for sale at the pickup sites, but rather have an eCommerce store set up through our website where items can be ordered to be delivered along with your share on Thursday. The usual items of maple syrup and honey will be joined by eggs, more fruit options this year, and some other items.

How do I contact Hog's Back Farm?

Our contact information is listed at the bottom of each of these pages. Far and away the best way to contact us is by email since we can respond to it when it's convenient. If you need to contact us immediately you can try the cell phone number listed below or you can text me at that same number. But be aware that we are in a very rural area and the cell phone coverage can be weak, and that sometimes tired farmers forget to charge their phone or can't hear it ring over the din of the tractor. Leave a message there and we will get it. And again if you need to pick up your share late or make other arrangements regarding share pickup you should contact your pickup site host. The pickup site host phone numbers are listed below.

Can I come out to the farm?

Of course! We are always happy to have folks come out and visit, but the farm is a very busy place during the

summer. We always need help on the share harvest days (Wednesdays) so if you need a day out in the sunshine let us know. Otherwise, our Pumpkin Day is the best time to come to the farm.

What do you do with extra produce?

Our farm is almost exclusively a CSA farm and 95% of our production is planned for our CSA. When crops are especially abundant, we pack as much as possible into your share. However, we don't want to overwhelm our members or deliver so much produce that it goes to waste. When we feel that members have received enough of certain crops, we handle the surplus by offering bulk quantities for sale to our members and to other wholesale customers. We have developed this system over many years of running our farm, and found it the best way to deal with the widely variable quantities that nature can provide. For every member who wants more arugula there is another who wants less. Balancing out these different needs amongst our members is an important part of what we do as your farmers. Complicating this is the fact that for the second year in a row we have not sold all of our available CSA shares. When we've planted enough for 175 shares, but have only sold 150 shares, it means we will have excess amounts of some crops, and sales of the produce that would have gone in those 25 shares is an important way that we can offset the reduced revenue from slowing share sales.

Pumpkin Day and Harvest Party Saturday, October 1st.

Fall is a great time to visit the farm. Things have calmed down, the colors are starting to turn, and the weather is usually cool and dry. The Pumpkin Day just seems to get better every year. Below is a photo from 2014, when perfect weather prevailed. Put it on your calendars now and join us for a lovely afternoon and evening. Bring a dish to share and room in the car for the pumpkins.



Below are addresses and details of the share pick up sites, a map of them all can be found on our website by clicking on the Signup tab. These are member's homes who have graciously allowed us to use them to distribute our shares, please respect their privacy. Shares are delivered on Thursdays, please see above for approximate times.

4411 18th Ave S, Minneapolis

The South Minneapolis site is the home of Andy and Jen Boss. The pickup will take place in front of their home to the side of the front door. It's easiest to park on 44th and walk down the alley. Their telephone number is (612)-825-0723

5512 Columbus Ave S, Minneapolis

Sheila and Drake Jacobson host this site. Pickup takes place in front of their garage on the alley. It's o.k. to drive down the alley but please respect the neighbors. Their telephone number is (612) 821-0755.

4544 Zenith Ave S, Minneapolis

The Zenith site is hosted by Bridget Oboyle and her family. The pickup will take place on their front porch. If you will be late to pick up your share you may contact Bridget at 612-927-6271.

3916 Colorado Ave, St. Louis Park

Chris and Cathryn Kasic are the hosts of this pickup site. The pickup will take place in front or to the side of their garage. Their telephone number is 952-925-7839.

4225 Wooddale, St. Louis Park

For 2016 the Wooddale pickup site has moved to the Thorntons at 4225 Wooddale. Since there is no parking on Wooddale, you may pull into the driveway to pick up, just please be respectful of others who may be picking up at the same time. You can contact Kate at (404) 408-1944.

4740 W 27th St, St. Louis Park

Liba and Jeffrey Herman host this Saint Louis Park pickup site. Pickup will be alongside the second garage, it's o.k. to drive up their driveway. Their phone number is (612)-791-5550.

4001 Highwood, St. Louis Park

Lisa Genis and Steve Pratt host this Saint Louis Park pickup site. The pick-up takes place on the driveway, or in the garage. Please park on the street and walk up the driveway. Their telephone number is (952)-922-8747.

2445 Humboldt, Minneapolis

The Kenwood/Uptown site is the home of Alex Rothman and Nina Sayer. Their address is 2445 Humboldt Ave S. They are 3 blocks east of Lake of the Isles and 2 blocks west of Hennepin. The pickup is at their garage off of the alley. The easiest thing to do is park on W 25th St and walk up the alley. Their telephone number is (612) 381-9737.

1686 St. Clair, St. Paul

The Mac/Groveland St. Paul site is the home of Sharon Jansa and Keith Barker. Park on the street and the pickup is on the front porch. Their telephone number is (651) 489-3362.

1184 Hague, St. Paul

The Hague Ave St. Paul site is the home of Julie and Leben McCormick. Park on the street and the pickup is on the front porch. Their telephone number is (651) 917-2747.

Whole Earth Grocery, River Falls, WI

Whole Earth Grocery is located at 126 S Main St in River Falls. The shares will be available back in the bulk section of the store. They are open until 8pm on Thursdays. Their telephone number is (715) 425-7971.

Hog's Back Farm 2016 Member Calendar

June 2016

| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | 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 | | |

Week 1, first box for Yellow EOW

Week 2, first box for Blue EOW

Week 3, second box for Yellow EOW

Week 4, second box for Blue EOW

July 2016

| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | 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 | | | | | | |

Week 5, third box for Yellow EOW

Week 6, third box for Blue EOW

Week 7, fourth box for Yellow EOW

Week 8, fourth box for Blue EOW

August 2016

| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 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 | | | |

Week 9, fifth box for Yellow EOW

Week 10, fifth box for Blue EOW

Week 11, sixth box for Yellow EOW

Week 12, sixth box for Blue EOW

September 2016

| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 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 | |

Week 13, seventh box for Yellow EOW

Week 14, seventh box for Blue EOW

Week 15, eighth box for Yellow EOW

Week 16, eighth box for Blue EOW

Week 17, ninth and final box for Yellow EOW

October 2016

| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 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 | | | | | |

Hog's Back Farm Pumpkin Day!

Week 18, Last box for regular summer shares and Blue EOW

Autumn Harvest Share Box 1

Autumn Harvest Share Box 2

November 2016

| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | 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 | | | |

Autumn Harvest Share Box 3

Last Autumn Harvest Share - TUESDAY delivery