

Gamble Creek Farm

At the Center for Integrated Agriculture

2010/2011 Membership

Hello Everyone,

A lot of vegetables are growing and looking great, and many more are in the greenhouse. This year in addition to growing hydroponically, we are growing certified organically in the field.

Many of the same vegetables we grew last year, as well as some new additions. There are also some different varieties on the menu. Strawberries are in and are enjoying this break in the weather.

We are excited to start the season and see everyone back soon!
--Eric--



Gamble Creek Farm

Visit us online: www.GambleCreekFarm.org

Pickups

Each week from November until May we host two pickups at the farm, which is located at 14950 Golf Course Rd in Parrish . You selected your pick up day when you signed up - please stick to that day!

- Wednesday pickups are 3pm to 6pm
- Saturday pickups are 11am to 2pm

When you come to the farm you only need to bring one thing: **bags***. Reusable, canvas or plastic bags work well. Upon arriving at the farm, you will find all the produce harvested, pre-rinsed and displayed beautifully on tables. We will provide you with a list of how much of each item you can take that week. From there you are free to assemble your own share.

First Pickup for Full Shares: Wednesday, November 3 or Saturday, November 6

First Pickup for Half Shares Group A (Last Name A-L):

Wednesday, November 3 or Saturday, November 6

First Pickup for Half Shares Group B (Last Name M-Z):

Wednesday, November 10th or Saturday, November 13th

Full Share (28-weeks)

Pickup weekly on your selected day. There will be no pick-ups the week of December 19th-25th.

Half-share Pickups (14-weeks)

All of the above information still applies the only difference is that you will pick up every other week. A magnet for your fridge that lists all your assigned pickup weeks will be mailed to you.

* Each membership will receive one Gamble Creek Farm reusable shopping bag.

Please no dogs at the farm for food safety reasons—thanks for your understanding!

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Potluck

Farm Support Committee

We are looking for members who would be willing to help us create revenue opportunities. This will include events, t-shirts, recipe books and more. Please consider joining - we need people of all ages, talents and interests. Each person will be able to choose how they wish to contribute. If interested, please contact Linda at Linda@fwcrd.org or 723-3252.

Pick-Your-Own (PYO)

From time to time selected fresh crops and herbs from the Earthboxes, during your usual pickup time, are available for PYO. *This is not a guaranteed benefit -the shares always come first.*

U-Pick Strawberries

Come and pick your own strawberries at Gamble Creek Farm starting November. U-Pick Strawberries are not apart of the vegetable share, but members do receive a 25% discount. We will be open Wednesdays from 10am to 5pm and Saturdays from 9am to 2pm. The strawberries are planted in hydroponic stacks, making it very easy to pick the strawberries.

Missed Pickups

Sometimes you just can't make it on your pickup day due to sickness or other unexpected events.

Option 1:

You can send a friend or family member in your place. They just need to give your name when signing in.

Option 2:

You are allowed to switch to the other pickup day at the farm (Wednesday or Saturday). *But you only get 3 switches, so use them wisely!* Half share members you must stay within your groups week.. Contact Linda at Linda@fwcrd.org or 941-723-3252 to coordinate.



U-Pick Strawberries

General Produce Information



Crops Include:	Cucumber	Radishes
Asian Greens	Dill	Spinach
Basil	Kale	Summer Squash
Beans	Leeks	Winter Squash
Beets	Lettuce	Swiss Chard
Broccoli	Okra	Tomatoes
Broccoli Raab	Onions	Turnips
Cabbage	Parsley	
Cauliflower	Peas	
Cilantro	Peppers	
Collards	Potatoes	

When is a specific vegetable in season?

Example of Produce Available throughout the Season

Broccoli • Beets • Turnips
Lettuce • Radishes • Asian Greens

Example of Winter Produce

Cabbage • Sweet Peppers • Kale
Cauliflower • Spinach

Example Fall Produce

Winter Squash • Eggplant
Swiss Chard • Basil • Beans

Example Spring Produce

Winter Squash • Watermelon • Leeks
Tomatoes • Onions

Let's Try a Member's "SWAP BOX"

The members last season requested a swap box so we are going to give it a 30-day trial. There will be a Member's "SWAP BOX" where a member can swap out **one** type of vegetable for what is available in the box. This will be totally controlled by the members. The box will be started with 4 or 5 vegetables then members will be able to SWAP based on what is in the box. This is a member-to-member swap only, and farm staff or volunteers will not be able to supplement the box.

How to Use the Produce

To help you get the most out of your share, we create a newsletter for you each week that has informational articles and recipes. Members found this very helpful last year. Additionally, the website has a section of recipes that is organized by ingredients. We also love to get recipes from you that we publish in the newsletter or online!

Farm Info

Current Staff

Gamble Creek Farm is operated by staff of the local nonprofit Florida West Coast RC&D. The Staff dedicated to this project are:

Eric Geraldson, Farm Manager

Our farm manager, Eric, has many years of experience farming in Manatee County. He will be the smiling face greeting you each week with fresh veggies he and his staff have worked hard to provide.

Maria Leija, Field Apprentice

Maria is our first farm apprentice who has been with us since January 2008. She is an experienced horticulturist and a great asset to our farm in all aspects. Maria has a lot of retail experience and loves the opportunity to interact with CSA members. Maria has also been an asset in working with our Local Food Buying Club

Chuck Rosenfels, Field Apprentice

Chuck has been with us about a month now. He grew up in Zimbabwe, South Africa on a family farm and is eager to learn more about our growing methods. He also attends the State College of Florida

Linda Percy, Membership Coordinator

Linda is the office contact for questions about pickups, payments, etc. Also, each week she puts together a newsletter with articles and recipes for you. Linda brings her southern charm and warmth to the team.

Jacob Leech, Agricultural Manager

Jacob is the project manager for RC&D. Jacob will be the first point of contact if there are any questions about new and beginning farmer training or resources at The Center for Integrated Agriculture as well as other activities of the Florida West Coast RC&D.

**Questions? Contact Eric at
941-981-0884 or eric@fwcrd.org or
Linda at 941-723-3252 or**



Eric Geraldson