

2011 Steller Organics CSA Information

Hello my fellow organic veggie lovers. This is my third year of selling locally grown organic vegetables within this progressive community of Homer. I was born and raised in Alaska and have helped my parents in their garden since I could walk. I furthered my education after high school at the University of Oregon where I received a bachelors degree in Psychology. After college I traveled the world and began to take an interest in sustainable agriculture. I took a permaculture design course on the Big Island of Hawaii. This inspired me to jump into gardening and agriculture on a much larger scale. Thus I started a CSA and for those of you who haven't heard of this term before I will explain it more clearly.

CSA, or Community Supported Agriculture, is a partnership between a local farm and a community of "shareholder" consumers. The shareholders pay an agreed-upon price at the beginning of the summer and receive a weekly supply of vegetables throughout the growing season. In an era when food travels an average of 1500 miles before reaching the dinner plate (and about 3500 miles for Alaskans), the CSA relationship provides a direct link between the production and consumption of locally grown food. As a shareholder, you receive wonderfully fresh and nutritious hand-crafted, high-quality seasonal produce that is picked the day you get it and is grown without chemical fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides. I practice sustainable, ecologically responsible agriculture with a focus on improving soil quality and biodiversity, minimizing fossil fuel inputs, and working with our natural environment instead of fighting against it. By becoming a member of a CSA you are both receiving beautiful vegetables, and you are also making a difference in how and where your community's food is grown.

Once you purchase a share, you receive a weekly delivery of fresh seasonal produce lovingly grown for you. I guarantee at least 15-16 weeks of produce starting sometime in June through September/early October. The length of the growing season is dependent upon weather. This year we are hoping for an earlier and later season with the help of our new high tunnel that is supposed to extend the growing season substantially. One share should provide enough vegetables for a family of four, though this is difficult to quantify as eating habits vary!

I am also offering another option for those that feel they cannot commit for an entire growing season and would like to receive and pay for vegetables on a week to week basis. This will cost more per week than a member who has paid up front for the entire season.

Some of our Vegetables: beets, carrots, arugula, pak choy, purple mizuna, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, romanesque broccoli, cauliflower, celeriac, fennel, edible flowers, stir-fry greens, herbs (chives, marjoram, oregano, parsley, mint, sage, thyme, basil, garlic), kale, kohlrabi, leeks, assorted varieties of lettuce, mesclun mix, onions, parsnips, sugar snap peas, snow peas, hot peppers, potatoes, radishes, shallots, spinach, swiss and rainbow chard, turnips, parsnips. There may be an even greater variety this year due to our new high tunnel (greenhouse)!

If you would like more information or to reserve a share in my CSA feel free to call Eve at (907) 299-3174 or e-mail eve.matkin@gmail.com.