



June 16, 2018

Dear

Greetings from Ripley Farm! With long summer days upon us our crops are growing fast, and we're looking forward to beginning the weekly farm shares in three weeks. Below are some final details about the upcoming CSA farm share. Your 2018 CSA pickup dates are as follows. **Please put them on your calendar!**

- *Wednesdays, July 11- October 24, 2-6PM at the farm*
- *Wednesdays, July 11- October 24, 3-6PM at Central Street Farmhouse, Bangor*
- *Wednesdays, July 11- October 24, 3-6PM at Bagel Central, Bangor*
- *Wednesdays, July 11- October 24, midday delivery to your Guilford Puritan/HWP workplace*
- *Wednesdays, July 11- October 24, afternoon delivery to your Bangor Savings Bank workplace*
- *Wednesdays, July 11- October 24, afternoon delivery to your home or office in Bangor-area*

Outstanding balance

Thank you to everyone who has completed full payment for the CSA program. If you have not, **please pay your remaining balance prior to Friday, June 29.**

Your current balance payable to Ripley Farm is _____.

Referral Rewards Program

We're so excited to have a growing CSA family thanks to many of you recommending our CSA farm share program to your friends and family.

In 2018, you referred _____ for _____ free week(s) of CSA shares! You can redeem this value (@ \$24/week) on the last CSA pickup in October either for future credit at Ripley Farm, cash refund, extra veggies for you, or as a veggie donation in your name to a food pantry. (Details at <http://www.ripleyorganicfarm.com/csa-referral-rewards>.) Thank you for your support of our farm!

What to expect when you pick-up your share

Your share will be packaged for you in a wax produce box when you come to the farm or drop off location. Each shareholder should pickup only one box. They are all identical. Each box will contain your weekly produce and a newsletter with farm news, recipes and a list of share contents.

- On the farm, please drive all the way up the driveway and park, nose in, in front of second set of buildings. Gene or Mary Margaret will be there to greet you and show you where to pick-up your share. Find a Google map on our website at: <http://www.ripleyorganicfarm.com/contact-us>
- At Central Street Farmhouse and Bagel Central, the CSA farm shares will be inside the store. Please ask one of the staff there if you have any questions and check your name off on the roster.
- At our workplace deliveries to Hardwood/Puritan and Bangor Savings Bank, we will arrange a regular weekly location for you to pickup the shares.
- Personal Delivery shares will be dropped off in an easily accessible, safe, shady location agreed upon prior to the first share. Please find a good spot, and we'll contact you to arrange for drop off.

Wax produce boxes: Return and handling tips

For your ease of pickup, your weekly share is pre-packed into a food grade wax produce box. We reuse these same boxes week to week, so each week when you come to pickup your share, **please return the box from the previous week** to your pickup location. Alternatively, many members transfer the produce from the CSA box into a cooler or their own bags right at the pickup site and never take a box home with them.

Please take care in opening and breaking down your box. These boxes are reusable, but only if they're not torn. The boxes have folding tabs that allow them to be opened and broken down to flat without tearing any part of the box. They should be able to be reused throughout the whole season. Please visit our website for a great demo on how to open and break down these boxes: www.ripleyorganicfarm.com/box.

We appreciate you taking care of these boxes! These boxes are economical if we're able to reuse them but are very expensive if torn prematurely. Please educate yourself and your family members!

If you go on vacation

Unfortunately, we are unable to refund you for CSA shares that you cannot pickup. Also, we are unable to hold your share for pickup at a later date due to space limitations. We recommend that you find a friend or family member who can pickup your share in your stead for that week if you cannot get it yourself. If this is not possible, please let us know that no one will be coming to pickup your share on any given week, so that we can donate your share to the food pantry instead of wasting the produce.

If you forget to pickup your share

Whether you pickup your share at the farm or at an off-farm pickup site, we are unable to hold produce for you if you forget to pickup your share. Please come during the above hours to get your share because **we cannot hold it for you beyond normal pickup hours**.

Visit the farm!

We encourage every member to visit the farm at least once during the season! No matter where you signed up to pickup your CSA farm share, you are welcome to visit the farm during the normal CSA pickup hours on Wednesdays 2-6pm and during farm events TBA. The Pick-Your-Own (PYO) flower and herb gardens are FREE to all CSA members for all 16 weeks, so bring your scissors and join us! <http://www.ripleyorganicfarm.com/pyo>

Keep up with Ripley Farm and know where your food comes from!

- **Read Ripley Farm's newsletters:** Each week your box contains a newsletter with farm news, share contents, and cooking and preparation tips for your vegetables. We also archive these newsletters on our website at: <http://www.ripleyorganicfarm.com/newsletters>
- **Use Ripley Farm's Vegetable Gallery Online Cookbook:** Find over 200 seasonal recipes for Ripley Farm's produce at our Vegetable Gallery: <http://www.ripleyorganicfarm.com/vegetable-gallery>. Recipes are organized by vegetable, so click on the veggie picture to find tips and recipes. Let us know *your* favorite ways of preparing your CSA farm share contents so we can keep growing our "online cookbook"!
- **Read Ripley Farm's Blog :** We plan to update our blog every week during the season, so check this out on our website at: <http://ripleyorganicfarm.com/blog>.
- **Reference Ripley Farm's NEW CSA Training Library:** NEW! An online resource for helping you use up your veggies and have fun doing it, going beyond recipes into kitchen techniques, tips, and advice gleaned from experienced CSA members! <https://www.ripleyorganicfarm.com/library>
- **Join Ripley Farm's free bonus 2018 CSA Members Community Group on Facebook:** Learn new ways to use your veggies, new recipes, and connect with like-minded CSA members. Join us at: www.facebook.com/groups/RipleyFarm

Please feel free to contact us with any further questions you might have. Thank you and we look forward to seeing all of our CSA members, returning and new, in July for another summer of wonderful veggies!

Your farmers,

Gene and Mary Margaret