March 2023 Hello Vegetable friends,

It is that time of year that we are planning our gardens for the next season: For those of you interested in joining our vegetable membership aka Community Supported Agriculture aka CSA:

DEADLINE for commitment to be cost effective is April 15, 2023. If we fill up by then we will not take on more shares. We are aiming for 30 summer shares. After 4-15, ask if we still have room and we will try to accommodate you if we can.

About our vegetables: Uniquely, 90% of our vegetables are from our own selected seed varieties bred for taste. We know our varieties well because if they are good we keep growing them for seed!

Options:

- 2023 Summer pick up weekly each Monday 4:30 to 6:30 pm, May 1st until Oct 30
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- **2023-2024** Autumn Winter pick up <u>once per month</u> 3rd Monday of each month, Nov 2023 through March 2024 (We plant in the spring for winter vegetables)
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- 2023 Summer and Autumn Winter combo

Please remember:

- Growing vegetables is extremely labor intensive.
- Vegetables not only take time in the field, but take time to plan
- For our planning we need to be clear about your commitment asap

Keep these things in mind above as you read below:

This year we require an email asap and a deposit commitment of \$50 before or on April 15 and this is applied to the cost of the share. This can be paid by mail to:

Meadowlark Hearth 120024 Everett Drive Scottsbluff Nebraska 69361

Upon receipt of your deposit, we will send an email receipt. If you are new we will also email a waiver that needs to be signed and brought to the first pick up.

Cost: IF WE RECEIVE YOUR DEPOSIT **BY April 15:**

\$750 Summer pick up: \$750 for May through Oct for 27 weeks (your cost \$27.70 per pick up)

\$250 Autumn Winter pick up: \$250 for once per month in 5 months, 5 pickups: Nov -March (your cost \$50 for each month pick up)

\$850 For both Summer and autumn winter commitment, 32 pick ups.(your cost \$26.56 per pick up, a \$150.00 savings for committing to the whole year by April 15)

Payment Options to fit to your cash flow:

Summer only for 6 months, weekly pick ups (May-Oct) after \$50 deposit April 15:

- 6 Monthly payments of \$117 until finished
- 2 payments of \$350 x due I May and August.
- 1 time payment \$700 due May 1.

Summer and Autumn Winter: 11 months: 6 months of weekly pickups and 5 months, monthly pick ups *after \$50 deposit on or before April 15*

- 8 Monthly payments of \$100 for each month May through Dec
- 2 payments of \$400 due in May and August
- 1 time payment of \$800 due May

Autumn/winter only: for 5 monthly pick ups Nov- March 2023 <u>after \$50 deposit April 15</u>, 2023 (We plant the vegetables for winter in the spring!!!)

- 5 monthly payments of \$40 monthly for each month Nov through March
- 2 time payments of \$100 due Nov and January
- 1 time payment of \$200 due Nov

Committing after April 15, the cost of deposit will be \$100 (increasing the share cost by \$50). That is because we need to know earlier in order to plan our garden so this is a reminder to tell us and deposit asap.

Apply for financial help for your share: If you need it, we are happy to make that possible. Either through bartering if you can commit to doing that (email us for barter info) or because of your need. Please email me <u>bcorymb@gmail.com</u> to tell me of your situation which will be kept confidential.

Donations to Meadowlark Hearth Living Environment Foundation for helping others:

Community Supported Agriculture means more than only supporting the farm where your food comes from but also supporting local people who are in need:

When people come on hard times Meadowlark Hearth Living Environment Foundation plans to fund raise to help families that are in need which then can support what the farm provides to them. <u>www.livingenvironmentfoundationne.org</u> Please let us know that you are designating it for this.

For your information: Recent Record of farm donations to help families in need of supportive food:

In the recent past prior to 2023, Meadowlark Hearth Farmers personally donated 4 whole beef to the Lakota Waldorf School and hamburger to families in need as well as vegetable shares to several families and also hamburger and vegetables at Thanksgiving to the hardworking people at the Croell Inc. If you want to support this for the future, please check the MHLEF website (www.livingenvironmentfoundationne.org/) to donate:

About MH vegetables: At least 95% or more of what we grow for you are from Meadowlark Hearth organic open pollinated seed company. This is a unique situation where the vegetables from a farm are from seed the farm has grown!!! We will strive to provide the vegetables listed below as they begin and continue:

May: lettuce, greens, red cabbage, carrots, green onions, pak choi

June: same as May adding zucchini, peas, lettuce, greens, carrots herbs cilantro, dill, garlic scapes

July: Same as May and June adding tomatoes & cucumbers begin slowly, early cabbage, broccoli, beets, basil, peas ending, green or yellow beans

August: adding garlic, onions, cabbage, peppers begin, melon,

Sept: adding potatoes, leeks, kohlrabi, winter squash

Oct-March: end of summer vegetables depending on frost

and beginning of storage vegetables ie:

Onions, garlic, cabbage, carrots, beets, leeks, squash, potatoes, depending on how the season has played out

Weather Clause: We have farmed in various places for 40 years and have learned to take the punches of weather. However the weather is getting more volatile and extreme. This must be understood when you commit to our work here at Meadowlark Hearth in case of loosing a crop because of violent weather.

Want a quick tour or visit to the farm prior to commitment or have questions about the CSA: email us and tell us when you are available to tour:

meadowlarkhearth@gmail.com

Other possibilities for involvement at Meadowlark Hearth Farm:

- Interested in grass fed-finished beef from Meadowlark Hearth Farm?. Tell us by email and we will send the dates and cost information for 2023..
- Interested in Events or classes on the farm, see the attached flier email us.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you for your interest!

Beth, Nathan and our farm partner Matthew Barhafer