

EDEN'S GARDEN CSA FARM

CSA Commitment Form

HOW TO JOIN... *Please fill-out this form and return this page with first payment*

- I would like to be a supporter of the farm and I understand that I will share in the risks with the farmer and agree to excuse them for the seasonal mishaps/crop failures that might occur.
- I understand that some weeks/months may not have produce available due to the weather/season, and joining the CSA is *not* a guarantee of a certain amount of food.
- I understand that each share distribution may be different produce and is based upon seasonal availability, insects, weather, and other acts of Nature.
- I understand that I am making an **annual commitment** to the farm with various payment options.
 - 4 equal, quarterly payments of \$375 (DUE January 1st ; for spring start; April 1st ; for summer start. July 1st ; for fall start & October 1st . for winter start)
 - 1 annual payment of \$1500 (Season start will depend on payment date/weather)
- I understand that my payments help cover the farm's annual budget of labor, fertilizer, seeds, equipment, and other expenses, to develop the CSA garden and that NO refunds are available; however, I can cancel at any time or transfer my share to someone else/back to the farm. No pro-rata available.

DATE _____ FIRST & LAST NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN - ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER HOME _____ CELL _____

EMAIL ADDRESS - ****BEST ADDRESS FOR UPDATES & NOTIFICATIONS**

HOW DID YOU FIND EDEN'S CSA? _____

IN A FEW WORDS, PLEASE SHARE WHY YOU WANT TO DO THIS? HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT CSA FARMING?

PICK UP SHARE DATES AVAIL - **SATURDAYS @ 9 AM** AT THE FARM 4710 Pioneer Rd, BALCH SPRINGS, 75180

HOUSEHOLD PROFILE #ADULTS _____ CHILDREN OVER AGE 10 _____ UNDER 10 _____
OMNIVORE _____ VEGETARIAN _____ VEGAN _____ (Please check one)

We have a valued relationship with other established local ranches and farms that offer value-added products. Would you be interested in any of these quality products from other local farms that we work with? (Circle all that apply.) Grass Fed Beef; Pastured Pork; Free Ranged Poultry; Artisan Soap; Dried Herbs Salmon; Artisan Cheese; Holiday Heritage Turkey Local Organic Raw Dairy; Raw Local Honey; (Other) _____

I have read and understand the parameters and nuances of Eden's Garden CSA membership as outlined on these 4 pages. Signature _____

---Please Return ONLY This Page with Your Payment---

It is the responsibility of the member to read this agreement as well as the emails that provide additional information. While I strive to get to know my CSA family members, due to the number of families served, it is too cumbersome to contact each member individually with updates and accommodate changes. PLEASE be sure to keep an eye on your email for updates from CSA@edensorganiccsa.com or marie@edensgardener.com (both emails will come to the same inbox, so it's not necessary to reply to both or send two emails to me.)

To become a member, you will need to include your first full quarterly payment with page 1 of this application and submit as follows...

Make checks payable to *Eden's Garden* for first quarter or full year
Mail to; PO Box 360004, Dallas, TX 75336-0004
We will email you a confirmation.

NO refunds are available; however, you can cancel at anytime, or transfer your share to a friend. Monthly payment option available AFTER a full quarterly deposit is made.

People will be added to the CSA on a first come/first serve basis. Once we are full for the year, you can have your place held for the first opening that becomes available. We can send your check back or hold it – as you prefer. Members are generally only added during the fall or spring season. Payments made via [Pay Pal](#) incur a 3% convenience fee. Zelle payments accepted at 214-348-3336. Please be sure to ALSO send in page 1 of your Application/Commitment Form

EDEN'S CSA MEMBERSHIP

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is for those committed supporters who make a 12-month investment in a small farm in return for a share of the seasonal produce from the farm as harvests allow. This helps cover the annual farm operation costs for seed, organic fertilizers, fuel, equipment, labor, greenhouse supplies, etc. Planning & work goes on throughout the year, whether harvesting or not, to provide members with an equal share of produce on a weekly basis during North Texas' main growing months/seasons. A share of produce is available for pick-up each week during the growing season, weather and harvest permitting. We strive to produce a harvest year-round and have 30-34 designated CSA Share pick up weeks. The farm is often available other weeks of the year for pick your own by *scheduling an appointment with the farmer.*

WHAT WILL EDEN'S MEMBERS RECEIVE?

It is our goal to provide a share of freshly harvested, “*Clean”, *Non-GMO*, nutritionally dense, delicious produce & herbs each week during the main growing seasons. Our farm grows many different varieties of produce each season; however, *a farm's production is always dependent upon the weather.* Your share will have, on average, a variety of 3-5 different types of produce and/or herbs each week to choose from. *A full share is perfect for singles or a small omnivore family of 2 adults and perhaps a young child, with food to include in their weekly menu planning.* Our members generally love various kinds of vegetables and are open to trying new things. They are invited to share recipes and cooking tips on our CSA's Facebook private group page. Our goal is to harvest seasonal produce as many weeks of the year as the weather will allow with some breaks from organized distributions during the summer and after the holidays during the coldest part of the winter. Some seasons may be fewer weeks due to the weather or other uncontrollable factors. We will not replace your trip to the grocery store, but intend to enhance it with the freshest, best tasting produce available grown right here in town. Nothing is imported.

*Clean – Due to USDA regulations, unless I pay fees, maintain specific, detailed records, and subject the farm to what can become quite costly inspections, I can not use the now infamous “O” word, organic, when describing my product or the way I have grown things for decades. That is why I love the phrase, “Shake the hand that feeds you.”

Get to know your farmer, and the methods they use, to steward the land on which they live and rely upon for their livelihood. I've been using pretty much the same methods long before I moved to this property and began farming it. Prior to my ownership, it was a private horse pasture. No commercial farming has been done on this land, to my knowledge, for over 50 years. I take keeping my food safe from synthetic toxins seriously and enjoy the magic of working *with* Nature, not against it.

The *proposed* harvest schedule;

All start/end dates are proposed and not guaranteed as we are dependent on the ever-changing weather patterns for growth. We strive to harvest/distribute about 30-34 weeks a year.

Spring Season (April-May) Once the weather breaks, we start the season with lettuce, carrots, radishes, beets, turnips, kale, chard, spinach, cabbage, broccoli, potatoes, herbs, mustard greens, Asian greens and whatever else we can coax out of the ground! Sometimes we start in March, it all depends on the weather.

Summer (May - July) As the weather warms, look for cucumbers, beans, squash, zucchini, heirloom tomatoes, peppers, melons, watermelons, herbs, okra, eggplant and if we're lucky, fruits from our growing collection of fruit trees.

Summer Break (Aug-Sept) Once things start to dry up, we will take a "dog days of summer" break, when again, we may have a sporadic pick up or PYO opportunities but not regularly scheduled weekly distributions. I take this time to prepare for the fall and focus on the new farm year, and recover from the long spring-summer growing season.

Fall (Oct.-Dec.) Short dated warm crops like cucumbers, squash, zucchini, green tomatoes, peppers, should start early October; depending on when the fall rains begin. Cool season veggies, like kale, mustard greens, Asian greens, lettuces, salad mix, heirloom carrots, assorted radishes, collards, herbs and greens will be added throughout the season, usually until mid December. We break after the holidays.

Winter (Feb-March) We will harvest from the garden as frequently as the weather allows but look for a break of several weeks once ole' man winter arrives after the holiday season. This is when I, too, take a break from outside work, but am busy planning, researching, ordering seeds, planting potatoes and onions, etc., working in the high tunnel & getting spring veggies started! If weather allows, we will have occasional pick ups or PYO opportunities during our winter break. Notifications will be sent via email. With the high tunnel, it's entirely possible we'll have shares and/or PYO available through the winter.

Keep in mind that many of the things harvested at one point in the year, were planted several months beforehand. (Onions, potatoes, etc.) And, oftentimes, some of the seasons will end up crossing over into the next one if the weather stays favorable and the plants keep producing. There may be more or less weeks of food than planned in a given "season". Remember, this is a farm, *not a supermarket*. I will do everything I can to bring you a healthy harvest of produce during each season, while balancing the natural resources I have available to grow, but I must ask that you understand there are *no guarantees* in farming. I can only control so much. This is not intended to *replace* your produce needs, but is sure to enhance and expand it, as well as doing the same to your taste buds.

I will not import food just to fill a share, meaning some weeks may be lighter than expected, but I may work with other local farmers to bring in a variety of quality natural products I don't produce at a good price. One farmer can only supply so much.

During the breaks, we offer pick your own opportunities for paid up members, by appointment.

WHAT DOES IT COST TO JOIN THE CSA?

The annual membership is \$1300, payable in 4 equal interest free installments of \$325 that are due Jan. 1st, April. 1st, July 1st, and Oct. 1st: **Or, after the initial quarter is paid, *begin monthly payments of \$108 towards the next upcoming quarter's payment due.**

**In order to take advantage of the monthly payment option, you MUST be paid in full by each quarter's due date to be eligible for the next season.*

Ex; Jan 1st payment is for a share in the spring harvest (which begins in April)

NO refunds are available; however, you can cancel at anytime, or transfer your share to a friend.

If you pay electronically via pay pal, please add 3% to cover the fees incurred

WHAT IF I'M OUT OF TOWN ONE WEEK?

Let us know as soon as you know please, so that we can re-distribute your share among our other members, provide your share for one of our "hungry family" recipients or leave it in the ground, if possible. You of course can invite a friend or neighbor to pick up your share in your absence. Due to the number of families served, switching pick up days becomes quite cumbersome to keep track of. But the garden still grows and we still need to harvest many things and storage space is limited at the farm, so holding your items may not be possible. **Please just let me know in the event of any changes by 8am Saturdays.**

WAITING LIST

Each growing season and the annual farm budget is planned in advanced and there is limited space available. Membership is available first-come, first-served until we are full. If farm membership is full at the time you send your Application & Membership Fee, we can return your check or hold it for the first available space. The waiting list may be for up to 6-12 months. **No checks will be accepted without the completed application form. New members added during the fall and spring seasons.**

ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Eden's CSA members receive a discount on additional *Eden's Garden* market day offerings and garden center purchases when available. Items like honey, natural insect repellants, Muenster dog/cat food etc. are discounted for CSA members. Please inquire with me for ordering.

Advice for your home garden is always free and you will receive a discount on classes offered by others at Eden's and free or "costs only" admission to workshops Eden's holds. Often surplus seedlings make their way into our members' home gardens.

Our CSA members will receive a regular newsletter during season updating them with a farm report. The farm is open to you and your family for visits, by appointment, for fishing, family picnics, etc.

Each CSA family is eligible to host 1 free farm tour per year for a small group of students or friends. (Up to 10 people) Talk to farmer Marie for details.

Having a small, urban farm within minutes of your home may provide you and your family with other benefits as well. We know it benefits the community as a whole and we're glad you're a part of our endeavors to make it a healthier, happier place!

www.edensorganiccsa.com

214-348-EDEN (3336)