



2018 EverGreen Farm
Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)
Membership Sign-up Form
Please read this application entirely.
Thank you!

With seven greenhouses and 15 years of farming experience, we have what it takes to grow a bounty of produce in this beautiful mountain climate. If you are new to EverGreen Farm, please give us a call or refer to our website for more information.

For those who have been with us many years, we are making a few variations to our operation for 2108. Please note the following significant changes:

- We are cutting back the size of our CSA by about 30%, to a size we believe will be more manageable during our busiest times of the year.
- We are also taking a careful look at some of the crops we will grow this coming season. We will not be growing some of the more expensive crops altogether or looking for new varieties. We are also taking a hard look at growing alternative foods in place of some of the most time consuming crops we've been growing for years.
- We will no longer be making weekly CSA deliveries to designated pickup locations. All produce pickups will be at EverGreen Farm in Smoot. I have already heard from several people who either need assistance picking up their food or would like to pair up with others to take turns making the drive. I've also had offers from people who would be willing to deliver a share to a neighbor. I will do my best to help facilitate such arrangements, but intimately it will be up to each CSA member to pick up their weekly share. Please contact Tara for more information.
- Our regular pickup day will be Thursday at 2 pm. This is subject to change on a few occasions to accommodate vacations. Produce will be available for pickup over several days time and stored in a large refrigeration unit to maintain freshness.

WHO are *your* farmers? The Shain and Tara Saberon family have been growing produce on our 7-acre farm in Smoot, Wyoming since 2001. We are a small family farm operation that performs our own day-to-day labors with the help of a small crew of dedicated "Workshare" helpers and occasional volunteers. We are passionate about growing produce that tastes great, is clean and nutritious, and of the highest quality.

WHAT is CSA? EverGreen Farm operates under the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model. In its simplest form, this is an arrangement between a farmer and an individual seeking fresh produce. Consumers receive a weekly "share" of produce by purchasing a membership before the season starts. This enables the farmer to cover upfront operating costs, plan appropriately for the season, and then get back to focusing our efforts on growing and harvesting great food.

Another aspect of being a CSA member is "the essence of the relationship... [and] the mutual commitment: the farm feeds the people, the people support the farm and [both] share in the inherent risks and potential bounty" (*Sharing the Harvest*, page 3). CSA members receive more produce when a crop is plentiful or less in the event of an infestation, disease, or damage due to weather. It is our experience that in any given year when one vegetable fails another does exceptionally well.

WHAT crops do we grow? Through years of experience (a lot of trial and error), with the aide of accelerated growing techniques (greenhouses, row covers, etc.), and by careful crop selection, we are able to grow approximately 30 varieties of vegetables and herbs. Due to the nature of organic farming and our challenging growing conditions, crop variety and quantity may vary. While it is possible that you could receive less of a favored item, the feedback we receive from our CSA members is that they are very pleased with the variety and

quantity of produce distributed throughout the season. Please refer to our weekly newsletters from previous seasons on our website to get an idea of the crops we grow and when they may be available.

WHEN is the food available? Our goal for the 2018 season is to start harvesting mid May and continue through mid October. We plan to grow an abundance of food for at least 20 produce shares over the six-month period. This plan gives us a few weeks of flexibility in the schedule in case of complications. *We also reserve the right to skip up to two deliveries at anytime during the season for personal matters.*

“When will the tomatoes be ready?” “Why can’t we have spinach or mixed baby salad greens all season long?” In general, our philosophy is to grow crops in their proper season. For example, in May you will receive cold weather crops (greens like arugula, Chinese cabbage, and pac choi) that grow well during the cooler months of spring. Then as warmer temperatures come, we start planting summer crops (tomatoes, beans, and squash). Summer is also when we start seeing bug infestations and therefore shift away from susceptible crops like salad greens. Some crops can’t be planted outside until the ground dries out, so they won’t be ready until late summer or fall (though with greenhouses, we have quite the advantage). While we make incredible efforts to extend growing conditions, we are bound to some circumstances and limitations that are beyond our control.

WHERE is the food grown? All the food you receive with an EverGreen Farm CSA membership is grown *on our farm* in Smoot, Wyoming. We welcome you to come see how and where your food is grown.

WHY join a CSA? For many people the answer is taste, quality, and freshness. CSA memberships provide consumers access to food that is grown locally with natural and sustainable farming practices. It also helps protect and support the agricultural diversity and beauty of our communities and environment.

WHY choose EverGreen Farm? We consistently receive positive reviews and praise from our CSA members:

- “I want you to know that I have used all of the CSAs in the area and find your produce and pick up the best by far. The variety of veggies, length of the season, and weekly newsletters are above and beyond what the others offer.”
- “Thank you for all your hard work. The veggies are so clean, fresh and beautiful.”
- “Thank you, thank you, we eat so well when we have your produce and I love it.”
- “Overall, I really think you are doing a wonderful service and I was glad I had an opportunity to share in the benefits. I ate most of the full share by myself...”
- “[I] wanted to let you know one of the benefits I have noticed with EverGreen produce is that [it] lasts much longer. It makes me realize that the 'fresh' produce I bought at the grocery store was probably over a week old when I bought it. Keep up the good work.”
- The greatest benefit of belonging to your organization... We get the freshest, tastiest, most nutritious veggies available.”
- “Your packaging is terrific... It’s amazing to get the food already cleaned! Wow.”
- “The variety you are able to provide boggles my mind. I love it...”
- “Thank you! You guys run a tight ship. We think the quality is excellent and the flavor is too.”

HOW we farm. We are strongly committed to practicing sustainable farming methods that we consider “beyond organic.” We strive to create the ultimate natural conditions in which microorganisms, plants, insects, and humans symbiotically interact in harmony and balance. For example, we rotate vegetable crops, add soil amendments as needed, grow green manures, spread thick layers of mulch, and make and spread compost in our gardens and greenhouses to create “super soils.” *In 2018 we are adding vermiculture (worms) to our operation.* In turn, these fertile grounds grow nutrient dense food crops, vegetables packed with both flavor and nutrition. Each year we buy only the highest quality seed varieties available (buying organic whenever possible) and never purchase seeds that are genetically modified or not grown naturally.

DETAILS: There are only a limited number of farm memberships available for purchase. Shares will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Membership availability will be updated on our website and a final notice will indicate when the maximum limit has been reached. *We encourage you to sign up ASAP.*

COST of a 2018 membership is \$650. A minimum payment of \$250 will reserve your membership. The remaining balance is due by April 1, 2018. *All membership fees are non-refundable.*

QUANTITY: The amount of produce in a weekly “share” is what a medium sized family might consume, keeping outside vegetable purchases to a minimum. A share may also be appropriate for one or two adults who are juicing or determined to eat a lot of vegetables. The first deliveries of the season consist of only a few items, but as the season progresses, more produce will be available. Again, you may wish to refer to the newsletters from previous seasons on our website to get a better idea of what you can expect to receive from week to week throughout the season.

We do not sell “half-shares”; however, a CSA share may be split between individuals after it has been picked up. In such cases, all arrangements (such as how to divide the cost, who picks up the food, and how the produce is allotted) are to be made directly between the two parties. We have endorsed this method of splitting shares for several years with good success and only the occasional complication. If you are interested in splitting a share with someone, please consider the following:

- *Every effort needs to be made to ensure only one person picks up the weekly share. When both parties pick up a share, you are actually taking two shares, leaving someone without their food and a farmer scrambling to remedy the situation.*
- Do you really want to *split* a share? It is not uncommon for us to hear, “I wish I would have known how great all this produce is. I don’t want to share it!”
- To prevent any frustrations, please discuss how you will split the food. Occasionally you will receive a single cucumber, zucchini, cabbage, etc. in your share. Will you cut it in half or rotate who gets such items from week to week?
- There will be the occasion when a produce delivery is small. Please realize it will be even smaller when it is shared.

PICK UP: Members are responsible for picking up their produce each week at EverGreen Farm in Smoot. Our regular pickup days will be Thursdays, starting at 2 pm. Your food will be pre-packaged, kept in a large commercial refrigeration unit, and available to pick up through the weekend. Any remaining food will be donated at our discretion. (For highest quality, we recommend it be picked up as soon as possible.)

COMMUNICATION: Please read our emails and the newsletters posted to our website. These are the methods we use to communicate important announcements and provide other general information. With each food delivery you will receive an email reminder and link to a newsletter on our website. The newsletters will include a list of the items in your share each week; ideas for eating, preparing, and storing the food; and news and pictures from our farm. Our website contains years of collected recipes and newsletters, pictures, and tips from previous seasons. I also post regularly to Instagram and Facebook (links are on our website).

VOLUNTEERS: The quantity and quality of food we grow is directly impacted by the amount of support we receive – thus the phrase *Community Supported Agriculture*. We welcome and encourage our CSA members to come volunteer at the farm. We especially need extra help on some of our bigger, time consuming projects. “Many hands make light work.” We are doing all we can to carefully manage farm related expenses. One of the unfortunate realities of many of our cost saving efforts is they become time-consuming projects. We have plans for making inexpensive farm improvements but often just don’t have the time. The truth is, extra help on the farm will help us provide our customers with the finest foods available and for the best price possible. We will inform you of upcoming projects in our emails and newsletters. However, if another time works better, just let us know. You won’t regret it.

WORKSHARES: EverGreen Farm is seeking individuals who are interested in helping on the farm 5 hours each week in lieu of paying for a CSA membership. Other benefits of becoming a Workshare are: observing and learning how to grow food in this climate, time spent out of doors and in contact with mother nature, associating with like minded people, extra produce, and having a knowledge that you are doing a great service by helping provide clean, healthy food to members of your local community. Please contact us for more information.



2018 CSA Membership Sign-up Form

Please complete this page and mail with your payment to the address above

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone #: _____ Do you receive text messages at this #? Yes or No

Email address: _____

Do you check this email on a daily basis? Yes or No If not, how often? _____

_____ I will **NOT** be splitting this share.

_____ I am splitting this share with: _____
Sign-up forms are needed from both parties splitting this share. The forms can be mailed in together or separately.

2018 EverGreen Farm shares are \$650. A minimum payment of \$250 will reserve your membership.

I am sending a payment of \$_____ at this time.

I owe an additional \$_____ which I will pay by April 1, 2018.