



## **TULMEADOW FARM CSA for 2025**

CSA stands for **Community Supported Agriculture**. It is a way to connect people with a farm in their community, or support their local Farmer. When you join a CSA program, you are committing to buying a weekly share of the farm's production. When you buy a membership, you are paying for a season's share in advance. This provides the farmer, in this case Tulmeadow Farm, with start-up capital for seeds, supplies, utilities, etc. for the upcoming season. When the harvesting (weather dependent) begins in June and for 18 weeks thereafter, the member (you or your designate) picks up a weekly share of what the farm has produced. This year the big share cost comes to \$540.00 (\$30.00 per week), the small share is \$275.00 (\$15.28 per week).

### **Shared risk**

One of the concepts that go with a CSA program is shared risk. In theory, should there be a total crop failure, you would not get a weekly share. In our case, with our greenhouse crops and other farm produced products like our farm raised fed beef and our ice cream, and the use of Farm Store Gift Certificates, we can assure you that you will not be coming up short.

### **How do we grow our food?**

**Tulmeadow Farm** is not certified organic. That being said, most of the vegetables we produce are not routinely sprayed with anything. If we have an insect or blight problem, we attempt to correct it with organic controls first. In the greenhouse we use biological controls (insect predators like lady bugs) as much as possible. If stronger measures are needed, we may need to resort to materials not on the organic list to avert a total crop loss. We use disease resistant varieties when they are available, but not genetically modified seeds or plants. The one crop that we usually spray is sweet corn. We spray our sweet corn about half often as is recommended, so worm control is not always 100% (Our compromise).

### **What will you receive for your membership?**

- Tulmeadow Farm grown vegetables (greens will be ready first), herbs, flowers, local fruit in season, (we do not grow fruit), and sometimes, produce from other farms, as a way of increasing the variety in your weekly share. (We will label which farm the food comes from if we didn't grow it.)
- Early in the season, and at times during the season, when we don't have enough veggies and fruit, we will include certificates for Tulmeadow beef or ice cream, or other local products like maple syrup, honey, jams, etc. We may also provide other CT grown meats, if available.

We do allow you to opt out of some of the value added categories, if you must, and we will substitute as best we can. There will always be more value in your share than the separate price of the items in the store that day. Gift certificates for use in the Farm Store will be issued as a last resort.

2025 Tulmeadow Farm CSA membership and registration form continued...

**BIG SHARE:** \$540.00 – a bag valued at least \$30.00 each week for 18 weeks We will provide 2 re-usable, earth friendly bags for each member. The idea is that you bring back the first one the second week, take home #2, repeat.....

**SMALL SHARE:** \$275.00 – a bag valued at least \$15.28 each week. Reusable bags same as full share.

**SEASON:** 18 weeks from early June thru October. The exact start date depends on the development of the spring crops, we often start when the local strawberries become ready. When we know the start date, that date will be e-mailed to you.

**COMMUNICATION:** We will confirm receipt of your membership payment via email. When we have a start date (very weather dependent) we will let you know. We will try to give you notice by Tuesday, of the likely make-up of the share for Wednesday, and Friday for Saturday, so you can plan accordingly.

**PICK UP DAYS:** Wednesday and Saturday from noon to closing. Closing time varies through the season. We are open till 8 until school gets out, 9 for most of the summer, but toward the end of the season we are not open past 7:00.

**WHAT WE GROW:** We try to raise a whole salad in our greenhouse (greens and lettuce mixes, tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers). We grow a variety of vegetables outside as well, peas, beets, lettuce, broccoli, beans, squash, peppers, cukes, herbs, tomatoes, (including heirloom varieties), sweet corn, winter squashes, etc. and flowers. We will try to vary it up as best we can.

**HOW DO I PREPARE UNFAMILIAR VEGETABLES?** We will try to provide you with recipe suggestions to help you prepare vegetables you may not be familiar with, or new ways to prepare familiar ones.

Our CSA program is a work in progress. We are going to keep the number of members small (up to 50) until we feel that we are doing a great job for those members, before we expand the program significantly. We have been growing vegetables for quite a while, but it is very different to go from picking things whenever they are ready, to having a big slug of vegetables ready on a particular day each week. We are working on getting good at that. Every year presents different challenges and opportunities.

If you have a particular vegetable that you cannot eat, (example: green pepper allergy) that we might be including in your share, put a note on your application, and we will attempt to substitute within your share, or put in a Farm Store Gift Certificate for the value of that item. Please try to keep those requests to a minimum.

Please drop off your completed application and payment at the Farm Store. We are open in March Fri-Sun, 9 to 6, or our mailing address is Tulmeadow Farm Inc. P O Box 100, 255 Farms Village Road West Simsbury CT 06092 Starting in April the Farm Store is open 7 days a week.

*Visit us at [Tulmeadowfarmstore.com](http://Tulmeadowfarmstore.com) to find out more about us.  
Questions may be e-mailed to [TulmeadowCSA@gmail.com](mailto:TulmeadowCSA@gmail.com) or directed to 860 658-1430.*

**2025 TULMEADOW FARM CSA registration form**

*Yes, I would like to join the Tulmeadow Farm CSA for 2025 by purchasing a share.*

*I understand that CSA shareholders share in the seasonality and risks of the growing season. I understand and accept the inherent risks of farming which may impact crop yields and that Tulmeadow Farm will do its best to provide a generous diversity of farm products for 18 weeks.*

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*Please Sign*

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*Please print name*

*e-mail*

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*Address (apartment, street, city, state, zip*

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*home phone*

*cell phone*

*Check those items below that apply to you:*

*No meat \_\_\_\_\_ no ice cream \_\_\_\_\_ No hot peppers \_\_\_\_\_*

*Other Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_*

CSA memberships are reserved upon payment, up to 25 for Wednesday, and up to 25 for Saturday

I would like to participate in (circle one) for the 2025 season:

Big share \$540

Small share \$275

Payment Date \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Type (circle one) Cash Personal Check Credit Card (in person please)

*Please make checks payable to Tulmeadow Farm Inc.*

Registrations are mostly first come first served. We reserve the right to give some favor to our past members. If your preferred day is full, we will offer you the other, if there are spaces still open there.