

# Blackberry Pond Farm CSA

Welcome to our Farm Family! We are looking forward to being your local food provider for this upcoming season. We are passionate about growing delicious vegetables for the people we care about AND we love teaching you how to eat them!! Our hope is that you will not only love eating our vegetables, but you'll become more connected to us, your local farm family.

## BECOMING A MEMBER

Thank you all so much for becoming a part of our CSA and sharing in our farm journey. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a beautiful partnership in which members pledge to help cover the anticipated costs of the farm's production for a growing season, and in return receive a portion of the farm's crops over the period of time specified in the agreement. Rather than simply purchasing food at a store or market, as a member of Blackberry Pond Farm CSA, you receive so many benefits!

- A portion (or a "share") of the farm's harvest
- The chance to invest in your local agricultural economy.
- Knowledge of how and where your food is grown.
- A strong relationship with your farmers
- Lots of education on how to eat with the seasons and enjoy our produce, and recipes that utilize our produce.
- The opportunity to come visit our farm and connect with the land.
- Members get access to new produce first, along with special seasonal fruit / veggies (Berries, apples, etc.)

Our 2026 Annual CSA runs for 44 weeks between Jan 12 till Nov 21

## GAP CERTIFICATION

We received our GAP (Good agricultural practices) certification by the USDA in December 2020. GAP Certification means we have standard operating procedures and safety measures in place to reduce the incidence and transmission of food borne illnesses. Most of our produce is grown hydroponically or in raised beds with drip irrigation. If you have questions about how we grow our food, we invite you to contact us. We are happy to give you a tour and talk transparently about how we grow your food.

## UNDERSTANDING THE RISK OF CSA

As a member, you share in the abundance of our harvest, as well as in the risks that come with farming. We cannot stress this part enough! Although we have learned how to avoid or manage around most problems, it is likely that EVERY year, Mother Nature will throw us a curve ball, and we lose a crop to drought, flooding, disease, bugs, hail, or other acts of God. This may mean that you will not receive that particular affected crop for that season.

If this occurs, we will do our best to make up for the value of the share by substituting something else in its place. Another option is to make up the value of your share on the back end of the season as we attempt to quickly plant “quick-turn” crops to recoup our losses. We will communicate regularly to keep you informed of our Plan B, and we ask that you be patient with us as we do our best to mitigate the consequences.

At the end of the season any amount that is left over in your account is rolled over to the next season.

## WHAT'S IN THE BOX

When you order your subscription, the amount less delivery charge is credited to your account. Your weekly box is fully customizable each week by using your electronic wallet credit in our online store. You may also purchase additional items over and above your credit as needed during the season. We do ask that you limit your purchase to no more than \$50/week. Buttercrunch Lettuce, leafy greens, and choice of Micro-greens (Broccoli or Radish) remain the core items available most weeks in the online store. Currently, we have planted a wide variety of herbs (cilantro, basil, chives, oregano, parsley, thyme, tarragon, rosemary, sage, sorrel), romaine lettuce, kale, spinach, Swiss chard, radishes, leeks, tomatoes, peppers (bell and jalapeño), cucumbers, Bok choy, Napa Cabbage, beets, carrots, turnips, broccoli, broccoli rabe, kohlrabi, cabbage. If there is something you would like to see us grow, just ask.

## ONLINE BOX CUSTOMIZATION

Our CSA Subscribers have the ability to fully customize their weekly boxes using our website by logging in with your individual email and password. This is another benefit to our CSA and something that sets us apart. If you have **pre-paid for delivery**, please select **CSA 2026 – Delivery** to your weekly order. If you will be **picking up your order**, please select either **Pickup at the farm** OR a **Pickup location** of your choice. Please enter your pickup day and time. If no customization order has been placed or standard box (NO SWAP BOX), then we assume you wish to skip that week.

## DELIVERY

Delivery occurs on Wednesday of each week. Obion County and Union City is in the morning 9-12. Martin is 12-2. Weakley County is 230pm-6pm. You do not need to be home, just let us know where you would like your box placed (a shady spot with a basket or box in which to place the box contents or an ice chest with ice pack on hot days is preferred). If you will be out of town for delivery, you can gift your box to someone in our delivery area, mark to skip that week, or we can donate contents to local food bank.

## PICK UPS

Pick up locations:

- Our Farm, 153 UT Farm Road, Martin, TN on Tuesday thru Saturday.
  - There are 2 large patio boxes at our mailbox on the right as you drive past the UT Beef cattle teaching farm that your box will be placed in for pick up 15 minutes before your requested pickup time. Each week, we will ask you select your pickup time on the website when you customize your box. Alternatively, you can email if you will be out of town, you can have someone else pick up your box or we can donate it to the local food pantry. Please note that the farm is a gated property with dogs. Do not drive down road to the farm unless requested or scheduled, as there is no turnaround and dogs may bite if they do not know you.
- Tiny Baker (Union City) on Thursdays
- OutSideIn (Troy) on Thursdays
- Stockyard Market (Trenton) on Tuesdays
- Neighborhood Pharmacy (Dyersburg) on Tuesdays
- Bob's Pharmacy (Dresden) on Fridays
- Schoolfield Pharmacy (Paris) on Fridays

## RECYCLING

We provide sturdy recycled plastic reusable crop boxes to swap out each week. Please help us keep costs low by returning your box for reuse or transferring your box contents to a bin or box of your own and leaving ours in pick up box. Our plastic clamshells can be recycled at your local recycling center, or you can return them, and we will take them to the recycling center.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you need to reach us, we prefer you email us at **blackberrypondfarm@gmail.com** If it is an emergency, or you will be late for your pickup, please call our cell phones.

PUT THESE IN YOUR CELL PHONE CONTACT LIST:

- Chelsea's cell phone: (425) 399-1209 (Box content or quality issues)
- Sue's cell phone: (901) 826-4234 (Contact about anything)
- James's cell phone: (901) 496-7049 (when you cannot reach Sue)
- Farm cell phone: (731) 332-3950 (someone will assist you)

## WHAT IF I GO ON VACATION? WHAT HAPPENS TO MY BOX?

We do not hold your box for you or credit your account or double-up on boxes later. But you have a few options:

1. Select “No Box this week” from the store.
2. Send a substitute in your place. Find a friend to take your share for you and either store it until you return OR eat it themselves! It’s a great way to expose others to our CSA.

## CAN I TRANSFER MY MEMBERSHIP TO SOMEONE ELSE?

Yes. Simply contact Sue via email and let us know who will be taking over your membership. We can work out the payment details. The new member can reimburse you for the remaining shares.

## HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT’S IN MY BOX EACH WEEK?

1. Each Monday, we will email you the contents of your box for that week. You can also access the online store on the online store to see what is available that week. This list is usually about 99% accurate, but there are sometimes changes, since Mother Nature is fickle, and we may not always have exactly enough of the same crop for everyone. This causes us to sometimes adjust the box contents. We do our best to keep things fair and give you a premium item later to make up for it.
2. If you need to know more about something in your box or what to do with it, text Sue at (901) 826-4234 or email us at [blackberrypondfarm@gmail.com](mailto:blackberrypondfarm@gmail.com). We try to send a “veggies of the week” sheet at the beginning of the season and when new items are added. This will give you storage tips and recipe ideas. If this is left out or you need to ask a question, just ask.
- 3.

***We want you to be successful as a member of the CSA.***

## HOW WE COMMUNICATE WITH YOU:

Our primary form of communication with members is via **EMAIL**: We expect you to check your email inbox every week. Please be sure to “whitelist” our emails so we don’t end up in your SPAM folder. (For Gmail, drag one of our emails into your primary tab. For other email providers, just add our address to your address book). [blackberrypondfarm@gmail.com](mailto:blackberrypondfarm@gmail.com) OR [owner@blackberrypondfarm.com](mailto:owner@blackberrypondfarm.com)

## SOCIAL MEDIA:

Website: [blackberrypondfarm.com](http://blackberrypondfarm.com)

Facebook: Follow us at <http://www.facebook.com/blackberrypondfarm>

Instagram: [@blackberrypondfarm](https://www.instagram.com/blackberrypondfarm)

## PAYMENT POLICIES

### How do I pay for my CSA share?

You can pay via Venmo, PayPal, CashApp, check or Cash. We can also accept credit cards via Square, PayPal from our online store.

## HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE:

By accepting this member agreement, the member hereby releases, indemnifies, and agrees to hold harmless Blackberry Pond Farm, its agents, and employees from any and all claims and/or liability from being on the farm property, being at any of the CSA pickup locations, from the purchase of a CSA membership or the use or consumption of food provided by the farm.

*Blackberry Pond Farm reserves the right to change parts of this Agreement/Handbook related to production and distribution from time to time. We will contact our members via email to notify them in advance of any changes to the agreement.*