

Dear Earth-Shares CSA Member,

Earth-Shares CSA is pleased to have Mary Lu Lageman, Karen Huseman and Toni Brock-Levi back again this year to grow yummy fresh, certified organic, local vegetables. This past year, Karen, Toni and Mary Lu—along with our 30 work share members and 5 UC interns—produced 23,300 pounds of produce! That means this past year you took home and enjoyed over 200 pounds of fresh, locally grown vegetables. This was another year of good production. *However, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a risk-sharing partnership between the farmers who grow our food and the people who eat it.*

Earthshares CSA cares about its members by:

- Providing certified organic, fresh local veggies
- Encouraging fairly paid labor
- Providing locally produced food (don't have to drive far) where people can see where and how their food is grown and learn about growing food
- Making available opportunities for social connections, finding those who have the same values

This coming year, we hope to enjoy a similar value. We continue to make some changes to keep Earth-Shares going strong. One of these changes is the share price. The truth is, we need to pay our farmers a living wage, and our expenses are increasing. This increase of \$10.00 will help us meet our labor and operating expenses. The share prices will be \$500 for a full share, \$375 for a full work share, and a NEW HALF SHARE at \$275. Half shares are limited to the first 10 who sign up. Another change is that we plan to partner with other farmers who raise meat and eggs and to bring these purchasing options to our CSA. New vegetables this year include celery, arugula, and cilantro. More sugar snap peas, corn, beans, and carrots are planned as well.

Now is the time to renew your membership and reserve your place in Earth-Shares CSA.

The farmers do important work over the winter: ordering seeds and starts, making necessary repairs, and planning for the coming growing season. Your deposit and your commitment to the 2016 season provide funding for winter tasks and help us plan for the coming season. Member renewals are on a first come, first served basis.

Send in your refundable \$25 deposit now to reserve your place for this year and to help all of us make 2016 another fantastic season.

Sincerely, and on behalf of the entire Earth-Shares CSA board,

Board Members:

John Robinson, President
John McCarthy, Treasurer
Amy Grethel, Secretary
Julia Almaguer

Farmers:

Karen Huseman, Garden Manager
MaryLu Lageman, Farm Manager
Toni Brock, Assistant Gardener

Mail your deposit to Earth-Shares CSA, 932 O'Bannonville Road, Loveland, Ohio 45140