

## 2011 Hope Bay Farm Box Program FAQ v.2

### What is a Farm Box or Community Supported Agriculture program?

Farm box or subscription or CSA programs involve program members purchasing subscriptions or shares at the start of the growing season. In so doing a commitment or relationship is created between the farmer (Hope Bay Farm) and the eater (you!). The farmer is paid at the beginning of the season – right at the time they are experiencing the greatest cost. In return, the farmer makes a commitment to make every effort to provide its subscribers with the freshest produce at a fair price. Participants understand that growing food is not without risk and accept this possibility when they subscribe to the Farm Box program.

### Why does Hope Bay Farm have a box program?

We're interested in establishing a more direct relationship with local eaters. Over the past 7 years of growing on Pender and participating in the Farmers' Market we've developed a close relationship with a core group of supportive eaters – friends that regularly purchase our produce and who want to more directly support and participate in what we are doing through Hope Bay Farm. Our Box Program allows us to deepen these relationships while providing a regular supply of healthy local produce.

### How long will the program run?

22 weeks – from the beginning of May to the end of September 2011. Last year's program was 25 weeks long which we found was a bit too long for us.

### How much will it cost?

Full Share = \$500 or ~ \$22.70/week

Partial Share = \$300 or ~ \$13.60/week

Participants can expect to receive 10-15% more produce than what they would receive if they spent the same amount of money on produce purchased from our Pender Island Farmers' Market stall.

### Is there a limit to the number of shares?

Yes. To ensure success we are limiting the numbers. This year we will be offering:

13 Full shares

12 Partial Shares

Shares are first made available to last year's participants. Remaining shares are then made available on a first come – first served basis. Because we have a limited number of partial shares we are encouraging folks to consider sharing the purchase (and consumption) of full shares with friends.

### Is there a deadline to sign up for this service?

Yes. This year's deadline to sign up and payment is **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

To sign up and receive a copy of our 2011 Agreement Form please contact us at:

250.629.6934 or [info@hopebayfarm.com](mailto:info@hopebayfarm.com)

### Are there any expected terms and conditions?

Yes by signing up for a share you agree to the following terms and conditions:

*I understand that Hope Bay Farm will make every effort to provide a box of farm fresh produce each week for 22 weeks. The variety of produce is at the discretion of Hope Bay Farm. I understand the folks at Hope Bay Farm will do their best to provide a fair variety and quantity of the highest quality produce to its members. However, even Hope Bay Farm can be affected by Acts of God. Subscriptions will start the week of May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 and end the week of September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. I will pick up produce at the designated location and time. I understand that if I do not pick up my produce in a timely manner it*

*may not be available to me. I also understand that the weekly allotment does not carry over to any other week or time.*

**Have you decided on a pickup location?**

Unless otherwise notified, Hope Bay Farm at 4316 Clam Bay Road will be the pickup location for the 2011 season. In effort to reduce the carbon footprint of our service, Box Program participants will be encouraged to pursue shared pickup arrangements amongst themselves.

**Pickup times?**

Unless otherwise notified, pickup times will be Mondays after 10am.

**Will you require members to volunteer on the Farm?**

This is not a requirement. Last year we did not provide volunteer opportunities. This year we are very interested in exploring this possibility and are looking for members who would be interested in helping (volunteering!) with the coordination of this kind of activities. We are very interested in provide an opportunity for folks to become more involved with our Farm.

**What produce do you expect to offering?**

Standard fare – concentrating on high value/quality produce and types and varieties not readily available or when available are of a poor quality. The idea is that we would provide you with high quality, very fresh and local produce.

**Anticipated Crops:**

Offerings will be a little light at the beginning of the season and will steadily increase into the summer and early fall.

<b>Spring Crops</b>	<b>Summer Crops</b>	<b>Fall Crops</b>
<b>Veggies</b> Arugula Beets Early carrots Lettuce Mustard greens Radishes Rhubarb Salad mix Scallions Sorrel Spinach Turnips	<b>Veggies</b> Beans Beets Cabbage Carrots Cucumbers Florence fennel Garlic scapes Kale Leeks Lettuce Peppers Potatoes Radishes Summer squash Swiss chard Tomatoes Turnips	<b>Veggies</b> Arugula Beets Cabbage Celeriac/celery Garlic Kale Leeks Lettuce Mustard greens Onions (storage) Potatoes Radishes Salad mix Summer and winter squash Swiss chard Tomatoes Turnips
<b>Herbs</b> Chives Cilantro Oregano Rosemary	<b>Herbs</b> Basil Cilantro Edible flowers Parsley	<b>Herbs</b> Basil Cilantro Parsley

**Boxes:**

Participants are required to provide **2** clean Rubbermaid totes at the start of the season. Full Share subscribers should provide two 53 litre (14 gal.) totes while Partial Share subscribers should provide two 38 litre (10 gal.) totes. The local Pender Island Home Hardware store carries both sizes in limited quantities. Descriptions and prices for both totes are provided under the links section of our website at: [hopebayfarm.com](http://hopebayfarm.com).