



Summer 2024 CSA Frequently Asked Questions

What is a CSA?

Community Supported Agriculture or CSA Programs are a way to get fresh local seasonal produce directly from the farmers who grow it. Members pre-pay for the season in advance, which allows farmers to have the funding needed to purchase their seeds and supplies at the beginning of the year and ensures that the produce grown has a home during the entire harvest season. If you want to eat more fruits and veggies, try out new recipes/ingredients, spend less time in the grocery store, or be a part of a local food community, joining a CSA is a great way to get started!

I'm sold! How do I buy a share for the summer?

Fill out the [EquiCenter Farm 2024 Summer CSA form](#) to reserve your share(s) and select your pick up options. Once completed, you will be invoiced for the total amount of the share(s) you have reserved. After you pay your invoice, you will receive a confirmation email as well as regular updates leading up to the start of the CSA season in June.

Where do I pick up my CSA share?

Pick ups will take place at EquiCenter at:

[3247 Rush Mendon Road](#)

[Honeoye Falls, NY 14472](#)

Further details will be sent to the primary contact before the start of the CSA season.

Do I need to pick my own vegetables?

Our farm team will have all the produce harvested, bundled, and washed (when appropriate) for you when you arrive. All you need to do is select / pick up your items. As an added bonus, members are invited to visit the sensory garden / edible landscape area in the farm field should you like to pick some extra farm snacks.

What happens to all the other produce you grow?

Our small but mighty farm team grew 8,000+ lbs of produce last year, which was used for onsite programs and events and donated to local hunger relief efforts throughout the Rochester area. Your CSA membership helps to support our mission of getting nutritious local produce to as many people in our community as possible.

Can I bring my family with me when I come to pick up my share? Can we visit the farm?

Yes! We love to see as many people as possible experiencing where their food comes from. Members are welcome to bring guests with them during pick up hours and are invited to use the in field tables to the west of the greenhouse for a bring your own picnic. We are a working farm and have extensive horticulture and equine program offerings, so you will probably see staff, volunteers, and participant groups working in the field. We ask that all visitors respect our Visitor Guidelines to help us maintain a calm, friendly, and therapeutic environment on the farm. Please note that pets are not allowed onsite and we ask that you carry out any trash you may have with you so we can do our best to keep the space tidy and welcoming for everyone.

There are a lot of horses at EquiCenter...can we pet them / bring them treats?

There are approximately 30 horses at EquiCenter's facilities at any given time. You are welcome to watch the horses from outside the pasture, but do not touch the fences or pet/feed the horses. Never enter a pasture, stall, or employees only area. This is to keep both you and the horses safe. If you'd like to bring the horses some treats, there is a horse snack refrigerator in the TACK ROOM inside the South Barn where you are welcome to drop off apples, carrots, and peppermints. You may see participants on trail rides along the paved driveway or a horse handler bringing horses in and out of the riding arenas. Please give them the right of way so we can keep lessons moving in a timely and safe manner.

Is the food safe?

All farm staff are food safety trained and follow safe food handling practices to get the best possible produce into the hands of our community. If you notice something that doesn't seem right, please contact our farm team immediately!

Do you do anything on the farm besides just growing veggies?

Yes we do! Growing on the farm is a year round operation with vegetable production in the field and greenhouse. We also keep honeybees who help to pollinate our crops and make delicious honey, make maple syrup in the late winter, and lead food preservation classes. As part of your CSA e-newsletter, you'll be among the first to know when specialty value-added products like maple syrup, honey, jams, pickles, and more are stocked in our onsite farm stand.

What's included in the CSA e-newsletter?

Before pick up each week, the primary contact for each share will receive an e-newsletter by email including what produce will be available for that week's pick up,

updates from the farm team, announcements about upcoming programs, events, and new specialty items being stocked in the farm stand, and seasonal recipes.

Can I volunteer on the farm?

Yes! We are always looking for extra hands to help us in the field. You can sign up for a shift on our [Farm Volunteers webpage](#).

How do I sign up for programs at EquiCenter?

For horticulture programs, please see the [Horticulture webpage](#).

To learn more about horsemanship lessons, please see the [Adaptive Riding & Horsemanship webpage](#). Please note, there is currently a wait list for riding lessons.

Can I sponsor a CSA share for a loved one?

Yes you can! Please fill out the CSA Share Form and select “gift.” You will need to include the purchaser’s email address so we can send you an invoice, but you can include the recipient’s information as the primary contact. We will ask you for the recipient’s email address to follow up with them once you have paid your invoice.

Can I sponsor a share for a household in need?

Thank you for the generous offer! If you have someone in mind, please use the gift option above. If you are looking to support our hunger relief efforts generally, please consider donating on our [Farm webpage](#).

Don’t see the answers you’re looking for here?

Please reach out to us by email at farm@equicenterny.org or call/text the farm phone at 585.404.1079.