

# Bray Grove Farm CSA Member Agreement for 2024

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Welcome to the Bray Grove Farm CSA!

Through our Farm-to-Table CSA, we wish to provide you with fresh, local, seasonal food while you, the member, wish to receive a portion of our harvest. This agreement outlines our shared commitments to that relationship.

## Section 1. Introducing Our Farm

### A. Becoming a Part of Our Farm

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a relationship between Bray Grove Farm and you as our customer. Rather than simply purchasing food, our customers become “members” of our CSA farm and receive a portion of the farm’s vegetable harvest.

Our CSA season runs for approximately 20 weeks, from early to mid-June to late-October. For a full CSA share, you will receive vegetables and herbs in a box (approximately one bushel), which is suitable for 2-4 people. A partial share is a box (approximately a half bushel), which is suitable for 1-2 people. Alternating Week members will receive a total of 10 boxes over the 20 week period, every other week.

Members who choose on-farm pickup are responsible for showing up at the farm each week to receive their share of freshly harvested produce. Groups who form a pick-up site in their town are responsible for showing up at the pick-up site each week to retrieve their shares. Members who choose to have their CSA share delivered are responsible for retrieving it from outside their residence.

### B. Our Growing Practices

The produce we grow at Bray Grove Farm follows naturally grown standards and we use no man-made or synthetic herbicides, pesticides or fertilizers. We utilize cultivation techniques that combine a carefully managed rotation of vegetable crops with cover crops to preserve soil fertility while protecting the soil’s structure, which in turn controls erosion, minimizes evaporation, and improves water infiltration. We use hand labor with simple agricultural tools along with a team of gentle and loving draft mules. They provide much of our farm’s motive power needs, from planting through cultivation and harvesting, minimizing our use of fossil fuels. Please refer to our website for additional information.

### C. The Products We Expect for 2024

The chart below outlines just a sampling of the vegetables we plan to deliver and when you may see them in your share. This chart is based on our best estimate, but of course weather, pests, and other events may affect actual production.

Month Harvested	Expected Crops (First Harvest)
June	Arugula, Beans, Chard, Chicory, Kale, Japanese Greens, Lettuces, Peas, Radishes, Spinach, and more.

July to August Basil, Beets, Bok Choi, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Lettuces, Melons, Summer Squash, Tomatoes, and more.

September to October Cabbages, Carrots, Fennel, Lettuces, Onions, Turnips, Leeks, Winter squash, and more.

We schedule staggered plantings of many varieties to provide an ongoing supply of several of the more popular vegetables so that they extend beyond a single harvest window.

We take the safety of your food seriously. We surface rinse or gently brush most vegetables, but to help maintain the peak of freshness, we do not thoroughly wash them. All produce should be washed before eating.

## **Section 2. Our Shared Commitments**

### **A. Sharing in the Risk of Crop Failure**

We promise to do our best to provide you with a bountiful share each week. The quantity of produce, however, may vary from week-to-week due to extreme weather, insects, or other production factors despite our best efforts. By joining our CSA, you are agreeing to share the risk of crop failure with us and other members. In the unlikely event of a crop failure, our procedure is as follows:

If a large portion of the crop fails, we may not be able to deliver any product in some weeks, but will strive to offset any shortages with larger portions later in the season.

### **B. Sharing in the Reward of Crop Surplus**

In many instances, especially during the peak of the season, your weekly box will contain a greater than normal quantity and assortment of vegetables so that you can take part in the experience and reward of a bountiful harvest. One of the greatest joys of farming is seeing one's labors in cooperation with nature, produce a vast field of lush, green thriving vegetables, and we hope to share this reward with you.

## **Section 3. Share Distribution**

### **A. Share Pick up at Bray Grove Farm Pick up site Tuesdays 2pm to 7pm, Morris, Illinois**

You should pick up your CSA share each week for the duration of the growing season from Bray Grove Farm during the scheduled times.

**More information to come.** Directions and exact address to be provided after signup.

As members of our CSA we ask the following for pick ups:

Please pick up your share within the time frame stated. Although we deliver high quality produce, its freshness may decline quickly if not picked up in time.

If you cannot pick-up your share, you can arrange for someone else to pick it up for you. We ask that you explain the pick-up location, time, and procedures to your substitute. If you cannot find anyone to pickup for you, please let us know at least 48 hours prior so that the food is not wasted. Due to our personal schedules and our inability to store CSA boxes, we are not able to hold your produce for you to pickup another day.

We understand there may be some weeks you are on vacation or have other life responsibilities that prevent you from picking up or receiving your share. If you give us a minimum of 48 hours notice, we offer you these options: 1) donate your share for us to give to the food pantry, 2) have a friend pickup your share, or 3) have your share delivered another week during our 20 week CSA season.

Shares will arrive in waxed boxes with freezer packs during the warmer months. Please return the box

and unfrozen freezer pack each week so that we may reuse them. Some prefer to transfer their share contents into their own bags for transport.

### **B. Share Delivery**

We offer delivery for season-long commitments (not by individual week). The delivery charge is \$80 (Morris) and \$120 (Western suburbs) for 20 full season shares and \$40 (Morris) and \$60 (Western suburbs) for 10 alternating week shares. Residential deliveries will be left outside your door. If possible, we recommend leaving a large cooler with freezer packs outside into which we can place your produce for added freshness and to keep out elements. We will text or email you upon delivery.

**Tuesdays between noon-7pm** (depending on your location on our delivery route) to **Downers Grove, La Grange, La Grange Park, Morris, Naperville, Plainfield, Riverside, and Shorewood, Illinois.**

As members of our CSA we ask the following for deliveries:

If you will not be around to receive your share, you can arrange for someone else to pick it up from your residence. We cannot deliver to another address. If you cannot find anyone to pickup for you, please let us know at least 48 hours prior so that the food is not wasted. We are unable to hold your produce for delivery on another day.

Shares will arrive in waxed boxes with freezer packs during the warmer months. Please leave the box and unfrozen freezer pack out the following week for us to pick up so that we may reuse them. Some prefer to leave a large cooler with freezer packs out for us to transfer their share contents into instead of us leaving the box.

### **Section 4. Communicating with Us**

Typically the best way to communicate with us is via email. Our emails are [info@braygrovefarm.com](mailto:info@braygrovefarm.com), [brian@braygrovefarm.com](mailto:brian@braygrovefarm.com), and [joanne@braygrovefarm.com](mailto:joanne@braygrovefarm.com). Please note, on Tuesdays during pickups and deliveries, we are best reached by text (our numbers will be provided after signup). We will do our best to respond as soon as possible, but please understand that we spend most of our time in the field growing food and not at our desk. Please contact us with any news of the following: changes to your postal or email address, problems with picking up, or questions about your share.

We will communicate with you by email. When you sign up, you will be added to our email list. Every week, we will email a newsletter giving you information about the contents of your CSA box that week, recipe ideas, and other farm related news. Please make sure our email is not blocked on your server. In addition, CSA box contents will be posted on Tuesdays on the Bray Grove Farm Facebook page.

### **Section 5. 2024 CSA Member Fees**

By selling membership in advance of the growing season, CSA reduces the burden of up-front costs for the farmer. Your membership fees provide us with money to purchase seed and equipment before the season starts, and we appreciate your commitment.

We can offer payment plans, allowing everyone regardless of their current financial situation, the ability to have of having healthy, locally sourced food on their table this upcoming season. Please contact us for details.

**Please CIRCLE Your Selection and Pickup Site**

Share Size	Full Season Farm Grove Pickup	Full Season Morris Delivery	Alternating Week Farm Pickup	Alternating Week Morris Delivery
<b>Full Share</b>	\$650	\$730	\$345	\$385
<b>Partial Share</b>	\$470	\$550	\$255	\$295

Share Size	Full Season Western Suburbs Delivery	Alternating Week Western Suburbs Delivery
<b>Full Share</b>	\$770	\$405
<b>Partial Share</b>	\$590	\$315

\*Please note – credit card payments will incur an additional 3.5% processing fee.

Please enclose a check (preferred) for your total amount due, made payable to **Bray Grove Farm**, with this signed agreement form. You may also pay with a credit card – please note - credit card payments will incur an additional 3.5% processing fee.

By submitting an agreement form you are agreeing to pay the membership fee for the share you indicated above. All payments are non- refundable beyond the second week of the season.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If your share is being delivered, **please circle** if you would like to be notified by TEXT or EMAIL.

Credit Card account number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Credit card CVV code: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing below, I agree to purchase the membership share indicated. I understand that, although unlikely, the farm may change parts of this agreement related to production and distribution from time to time. I understand that they will contact me via email in advance of any changes to this agreement.

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_