

**Before you get started please review our
Farm Policies!**

Farm Policies and Frequently Ask Questions:

So how is a Meat CSA different from my vegetable CSA?

Similar concept, but different in that dealing with meat is much more challenging. The reason it is difficult is because we are breaking down whole animals and attempting to divide them up randomly but fairly. Your vegetable farmer can give everyone five zucchini; we cannot give everyone two pork chops —there wouldn't be enough to go around. (There is only 20 pounds of bacon in a pig and 50-60 pounds of steak in a cow, that breaks down to 20 sirloins and 20 NY Strips and 12 Delmonico's and 6 Tenderloins.) So we have to make decisions on the fly about who gets what. (You know how in your veggie box sometimes you get too much kale? Well sometimes you get too much roast). We also can't just leave the boxes on someone's porch; the meat has to be frozen for food-safety reasons and someone needs to be available for pickup. Unlike a vegetable CSA there is no waste. The meat can go directly from our freezer to yours and it will keep up to 12 months frozen in its vacuum sealed bag. There is no washing, processing or canning involved!

Can I specify which cuts I get?

No, sorry. We make every effort to distribute the cuts randomly and fairly, but as we discussed above this is logistically challenging so we can't accommodate special requests. You will receive 2 high end steaks and one sirloin steak during your membership. Also at least 2 whole chickens. For more information on what is included in a share see **Sample Share Chart** on our website for more detailed information.

Am I going to get stuck with chicken feet or a beef tongue?

No! But you can purchase them ala cart.

Those of you in the NY City area can purchase extra meats to receive with your CSA share through our Web Store. (Steaks, Chicken and more) You will receive an e-mail every time the store is open.

Upstate CSA members can e-mail the farm an order 7 days in advance and we will send it along.

What should I do if I can't make it to a distribution?

We always prefer that you or a friend pick up your shares in person. As farmers, we go through a GREAT amount of work to get your CSA share to you! First, we raise the animals for months or years; depending on the species. Next, we have them scheduled to be taken for processing (this planning sometimes has to happen years in advance). Then we need to get the processed meat back to the farm and into our freezer where CSA shares are sorted and boxed. A few days BEFORE delivery day we get the shares to the distributor, who then gets them to your pick up location where our core members get them ready for you. Understandably, it takes a lot of planning and care to ensure that you get a quality product!

Core Members who oversee distribution and our Host sites (Restaurants', Bars, Churches, Gyms, Homes) are NOT employees of the farm! They are NOT being paid to do this. We ask that you respect them and show up to distributions on time or send a friend and not to ask for special favors. It is NOT their job to call and tell you you are late for pick up.

However, we also understand that sometimes things do come up. If you know that you will be out of town or on vacation during a distribution day, we ask for a minimum of **7 days notice** (via e-mail) in order to hold your share. Due to our tight scheduling, only requests made a week in advance will give us enough time to make arrangements to hold your shares and send them with the following distribution.

Without 7 days notice, shares will be sent as normal, and **WILL NOT** be held by the host location. Our host locations do NOT have the space to hold frozen meat. Any shares that are NOT picked up will be donated at the end of distribution. Only exceptions to this rule are for those picking up shares at people's homes (upstate csa). They will hold it and make arrangements for pick up, but we ask you **NOT** to take advantage.

E-mail notifications:

As a CSA member you will receive e-mail reminders to pick up your CSA share, notifications of any delivery problems and payment notices. You will also receive farm news and updates. **It is your responsibility to open and read these e-mails.** This is how we contact you with good news and any **CSA changes.**

Late or no-show of delivery?

Some things happen that are out of our control with the delivery of your shares. We do our part to get it to the disturber on time, but things happen! Traffic issues or weather may cause shares to be delivered late.

We **HIGHLY** recommend you check your e-mail and follow us on Face book or Twitter. We will get the word out as soon as we know if there is a problem with the delivery. We will then do our best to make sure you can pick up your share on time! If the Delivery doesn't make it on that given day we will notify you when you can pick up your share.

Weather, traffic and delivery issues are out of our control!

Cancelation or refunds:

We do not refund CSA purchases. If for some reason you need to opt out, please find a friend to take over your share.