

Red Wiggler's CSA Newsletter

In your share:

Potatoes
Onions
Sweet Peppers
Cherry Tomatoes/
Tomatillos
Red Tomatoes
Zucchini/
Summer Squash
Hot Peppers

In the PYO:

Nasturtiums (L)
Mint (L)
Lovage (L)
Stative (L)
Sage (C)
Salvia (C)
Yarrow (C)
Winter Savory (C)
Anise Hyssop (A)
Bee Balm (A)
Chamomile (A)
BachelorButton (A)
Basil (U)
Parsley (U)
Sorrel (U)
Snapdragons (L,U)
Zinnias (U)
Wildflowers (W)
Cilantro (T)
Dill (I)

PYO Key:

L – Lower PYO
U – Upper PYO
A – Wedge A
C – Wedge C

In this week's share...

Three varieties of potatoes will be part of your share this week: Dark Red Norland (red skin, white flesh), Adirondack Blue (purple skin, purple flesh) and Purple Viking (purple skin, white flesh.) They are delicious just roasted in the oven.

On the farm...

The Farm Tour brought lots of visitors to the Red Wiggler last Saturday. They had many questions and comments about what they saw and heard. But it was a veteran CSA member's comment that stood out. She said that no matter how crazy her day has been, she is filled with peace as she comes down the Red Wiggler's lane to pick up her weekly share. We feel that same peace at the end of a really busy day on the farm. The cabs have taken the tired growers home, the teen volunteers have signed out with Red Wiggler's dirt still under their fingernails, and the barn is full of the bounty of the day's harvest.

This week's most impressive harvest (besides tomatoes, of course) is potatoes! When the tractor pulls the potato digger down the hills of browned potato plants, the red and blue and tan potatoes roll out behind. We dove in to collect them and one teen volunteer described feeling like he was at an Easter egg hunt. (Maybe not after he hefted the 30+ pound crate back down the row to the wagon!) But it is a real treasure, for sure, and the first morning of the potato harvest yielded over 900 pounds of potatoes. A second morning's haul was just as successful, and we've cleared out only a little over half of the potato rows.

Upcoming Events...

Red Wiggler goes on the road to Leisure World this Thursday, July 31, from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. This Farm Market is open to Leisure World residents and to the public (just tell the gatekeepers you are there for the Farm Market.) We set up outside the Interfaith Chapel every Thursday from now until August 28. The growers enjoy the interaction with the customers and the change of pace from the typical farm day, and the customers get to know who is growing the food they buy.

NOTE: CSA members are welcome to buy additional vegetables over and above what comes in your share. When you come to pick up your share this week, there will be additional zucchini, onions and cherry tomatoes available for purchase.

Pick Your Own...

Lots of fragrant herbs and beautiful flowers! Check in with the volunteers and staff around the PYO for advice on how to select, cut, and use the plantings marked with a blue flag- these are ready to harvest.

Recipe...

Tomatillo Salsa

2 cups tomatillos, chopped
1 cup onion, chopped
1 jalapeno pepper, chopped
2 garlic cloves, chopped
¼ cup cilantro, chopped
¼ cup lemon juice
2/3 tsp cumin
¾ tsp salt
1/3 tsp pepper

Combine in a saucepan and stir frequently over high heat until mixture boils. Reduce heat. Simmer 20 minutes. Refrigerate. Serve.

(from www.food.com)