

**LITTLE  
CITY  
GARDENS**



SUMMER  
**2011**

# WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

CUSTOMERS NEED FARMS — FARMS NEED CUSTOMERS

## WHAT IS COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE ?

The CSA model began in the early 1960s in Germany, Switzerland and Japan as a response to concerns about food safety, and it became more widely recognized as an alternative food distribution model in the US by the 1980s. A CSA program usually consists of a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm so that the farmland becomes the community's farm, with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of food production.

## WHY DOES AGRICULTURE BELONG IN THE CITY ?

By bringing the practice of sustainable farming into the heart of the city and by making visible the economic, social and health benefits of small-scale organic food production, we as urban residents can make valuable and lasting connections between the food we eat and the health of our families and communities. By growing some of our food in the city we can eliminate food miles, demonstrate self-sufficiency and provide dynamic, beautiful spaces for neighbors to enjoy together. A farm in the city can position itself not only as a place to grow food for urban residents but also as a site for skill sharing, education and dialogue about the agricultural issues that affect us all, whether we live in the city or the country. The more tangible these issues become to us, the more we can be motivated to engage politically in order to generate solutions to our nation's agricultural dilemma. Farms in the city have the capacity to bridge the divide between the rural producer and the urban consumer.

## THIS BUSINESS HAS BEEN A LABOR -OF- LOVE and NOW

land acquisition • fund raising • public speaking • policy work • weeding • digging • mowing • seeding • experimenting • number crunching • getting to know our micro-climate • meeting neighbors • building relationships • hosting interns, volunteers, classes, tours • keeping you posted through our blog • identifying challenges • attempting to be thoughtful and communicative about each step we take • essay writing • drawing • honing our farming skills • marketing

## YOUR INVOLVEMENT AS A FARM INVESTOR SUPPORTS

a model for a self-sustaining urban farm • inspiration for other cities • a demonstration to curious city policy-makers of the benefit of small-scale agriculture in urban neighborhoods • beautiful open space a dense neighborhood • bird habitat • bee habitat • our capacity to farm full-time and grow beautiful healthy food for you • the forming of a community with whom we can share our farming ups and downs

← WHAT'S GROWING NOW →

LACINATO KALE	CILANTRO	SWISS CHARD	BEETS	FRENCH BREAKFAST RADISHES	MUSTARDS
ZUCCHINI	CABBAGE	SQUASH	SCALLIONS	BASIL	FAVA GREENS
LEEKs	RAINBOW CARROTS	TOKYO TURNIPS	ARUGULA	FENNEL BULB	LETTUCE
POTATOES				HERBS	FLOWERS PURPLE AND GREEN BEANS

## COMMUNITY-SUPPORTING - COMMUNITY SLIDING SCALE PROGRAM

This sliding scale program is a gesture towards fair food access. The program stems from the recognition that healthy, locally produced food is not equally accessible to everyone. Prices of healthy food from small-scale farmers are out of reach for some, particularly when compared to the subsidized, ecologically extractive, artificially cheap counterparts in the marketplace. Some families and individuals cannot afford the higher food prices that sustainable food production requires, while others can and are able to offer extra. We believe in every person's right to delicious, healthy food and we also are aware of the complexities of food access.

Through this program we are opening a forum for CSA members to share and receive the privilege (and the right) of consuming healthy local produce. We greatly encourage those who can pay a little more each week to do so. These donations will go directly into a fund for reduced price boxes. Food equity is a real and important issue in our city and we find it essential to engage our CSA community in piloting some grassroots solutions.

## WHAT WE CAN GROW MORE OF IN SAN FRANCISCO :

LOCAL ECONOMIC  
COLLABORATIONS  
KALE VALUES-DRIVEN  
SMALL BUSINESSES  
RURAL/URBAN PARTNERSHIPS  
EXPERIMENTATION  
SELF SUFFICIENCY