

McDougal's Farm LLC

What's Growing On!

February 5th, 2018

Farm News

With only a week left before some of the first seeds go in, we decided to take a little road trip. We pointed our bumper towards the southern part of the state and left the snow banks in the rearview mirror. By the time we hit Steven Point, the snow was gone!...couldn't believe it. By the time we hit Madison it occurred to us we may have dressed wrong. It was obvious we were visitors from the great Northern tribe that was prepared for an ice apocalypse at any given time. We need to get out more. A snow storm welcomed us home...

Here, the thermometer froze below zero and stayed there most of January. So we stayed productive *indoors*. Seed orders went out, and seed orders came in. As they came in they were organized, scheduled and stored away. **We signed up a whopping 40 % of our Farm members already!! Amazing! and great job to all of you that sent your payment in early...our Christmas wish answered...thank you!** The greenhouse supplies were also ordered, delivered and unloaded into the big greenhouse... which we will pounce on in just a few weeks if thawed out. Field and crop rotations plans were drawn up and we did a little pre-busy-season cooking for days when there is no cook in the house. Early morning coffee sessions last longest in January, but shorten every month we get closer to June.

The long cold snap of January was tough on our honeybee colonies. We are pretty sure **we lost all three hives** and will have to reorder. We are grateful for the large population of native bumble bee residence we have here on the farm. I guess *underground* is key when you are a bee living in the north.

To all of you that are new to McDougal's Farm this season and to those who have been with us in the past...some of you from the very beginning...**Thank you for letting us be your trusted farmers. It is truly an honor.** And to those of who are unsure or may have questions, give us a call (715-627-4418). We would love to be your farmers.

Peace and Health.

Jerry and Maydene McDougal

Can now sign up online!

McDougal's Farm has now entered the 21st century!! **You can now order, fill out your sign up form AND pay for your CSA shares right on our website,**

mcdougalsfarm.com. We still accept checks or cash, but **here are a few things you should know if ordering online:**

- **You still have to fill out a Sign-up Form** and get it to us promptly (by mail or email). Once we receive your signed, completed form, we will send you a confirmation email. You're in!!
- When paying with a credit card, **you must pay the full amount**. Multi-payments can still be made by check only.
- A small **convenience fee of 2%** will be added at checkout
- **Know we drove our website guy insane** with a bazillion questions that very un-techie people like us would ask. It was obvious we were not wired the same. He patiently simplified the processes so even we could do it:) Thank you **Chad Cornelius of Search 360** (Antigo).

2018 Farm Events coming soon

We didn't get to our farm calendar of events for the upcoming year yet but you guys will be the first to know when we do. We will also post these on our website as they become available.

A suggested read

We always try to get in a few books during the off season...one we recommend everyone to read, "**Salt, Sugar, Fat**" by **Michael Moss**. Why? because it would make selling what we do (growing local, organic, real food) a piece of cake...pardon the pun:). The book touches on the history of food and how yesterday's food disasters are quickly becoming today's health problems. The big food industries gave us what we wanted, "convenience". Orange juice that didn't need to be thawed but was also made with 100% chemicals and sugar...the list goes on. They took away the farmers and replaced them with chemists, scientists and psychologists...and we kept on buying. It reminded me of a book my Mom use to read to us..."The Lorax" (an excellent children's book about being responsible for our environment by Dr. Suess). My Mom was planting little seeds long before I was:)

Some Late Season Cooler Goodies Left

- 4# bags of carrots (shorties) \$4
- 8# bags of carrots that just keep getting sweeter (large, slicing and juicing)\$8
- 10# bags of potatoes, only Golds or Russets left-\$8
- 4# bags of beets \$4
- Rutabagas \$.50 /lb

Please call first so we don't miss you, 715-627-4418. Sorry no deliveries with these great prices.