

McDougal's Farm LLC

What's Growing On!

June 4th, 2018

Farm News

***First veggie pick up will be next
Thursday, June 14th!**

Please read for pick up details

Welcome, welcome to the 2018 growing season!!and what an odd one it has been so far. From 20" of snow to Sahara desert conditions within 5 weeks. You would think after 10 years of doing this, we wouldn't get nervous any more, but not the case. This has been an odd Spring and we are seeing things we have never seen before....like ducks eating our cabbage transplants in the middle of the field on a 90 degree day, as the pond sits vacant just a few flaps away. An uncommonly hot dry week with the average temps around 90 every day that was merciless on our young transplants. After working all day in the heat, (mostly upside-down) we spent evenings watering till the moon reflected into the pond. The efforts saved most but the cauliflower took a strong hit. Good thing cauliflower sales were down in the greenhouse this year and we have enough replacements....so it all works out somehow. When the 2.3" of rain finally fell, our ground drank it up...we went fishing.

The fields are filling up with transplants and the rows planted in seed are all beginning to show themselves...another thing that keeps us on edge until we know we have good germination. The extreme heat had us worried. The hoop houses on the other hand, are way ahead, ready to burst with beautiful heads of romaine and other goodies that will be in your **first box starting NEXT WEEK June 14th** (more details below). We will be sending out an additional email to those of you that have chosen the Buddy Box (the alternating week box), to let you know your pick up schedule and who is your buddy:)

We are looking forward to another beautiful, abundant growing season with you and are truly and humbly grateful to all of you for choosing us to be your entrusted farmers. We will do all we can to bring good health and vibrancy to your dinner plate.

Jerry and Maydene McDougal

PS. Time to share those good recipes:)

No Delivery July 5th

There will be no box delivery July 5th to allow our fields to catch up. The missed week will be added on at the end of the season, finishing October 18th (our wedding anniversary!). We will send you a reminder.

Pick-up and how it works

The first pick up is always the most exciting.... for us too. Finally after a long winter of wilted or no greens at all because you can't make yourself do it, the fresh greens start coming in. This is also the time when any mistakes on our part surface quickly...and any mistakes on your part, like taking the wrong size box, can cause great confusion at the end of the day and sometimes an extra trip to Rhinelander or Wausau for us. **If you don't remember which drop site you chose or what size share you signed up for, please drop us an email before this week's pick up date and we'll gladly get you squared away. Remember: the Standard share is a white box and the Large share is the brown box.**

It is important you pick up your box the same day for 2 reasons: 1)shows respect and gratitude to your drop site host and 2)Your veggies will have optimum nutrition if picked up early, kept cool and used as soon as you can.

Following are the estimated drop-site pickup times:

- **The Green Hen (Natural Living)** - pick up between **1:00pm and 6pm**
- **Sweet Thyme Coffee Shop**- pick up between **1:00pm and 5pm**
- **Center for Health and Performance** (Antigo Hospital)-pick up between **1:00pm-8pm** or later if you are a member with a pass.
- **Bass Lake** (the Don and Nancy Winter garage at W10760 Bass Lake Rd. Summit Lake area)-pick up between **1pm and 8:30pm**
- **Bessey's Meat Market** (Rhinelander- 1102 S. Oneida Ave) pick up between **2pm and 6pm**- *Best "Fathers Day" Brats ever!* Please pick up before closing.
- **The Farm** (W10835 Bluebell Rd. Deerbrook- *behind* the left of garage in walk-in tan cooler) pick up between **1:00pm**. (no earlier please, still packing and loading:), **till dark**
- **Red Clover Market** (Weston-Wausau) pick up between **2:00pm and 6:00pm**
- **Patina Coffee House** (downtown Wausau site) pick up between **2:00pm and 6:00pm**
- **The Wellness Center** (Merrill) pick up between **1:30pm and 6pm**

When you pick up your box at your chosen drop site, you will notice a chart with your name on it (we hope), *please* remember to **check your name off**. This helps us figure out who forgot to pick theirs up. **Standard shares will be in a white box** and what most will get. The **large shares will be in a brown box**. Make sure you take the size you signed up for, this will also be on the chart after your name, either

marked with a **S** for standard or a **L** for Large. **The new Buddy Box is the same size as the standard (white), you will just be alternating.** You will notice the boxes we use for the vegetables are waxed; this is to keep the veggies from dehydrating. They are costly so **please keep them clean, discard the newspaper, carefully (as to not rip them), collapse them down and return them to their pick up/drop off locations before or when you pick up the next time.** As we drop off your next box, we will collect the previous week's box. Any notes or comments can also be put into the returning boxes. We are in need of **clean newspapers-no flyers please** to line the bottom of the boxes, if you have extra they can be put into the returning boxes also.

When you are going to be gone or on **vacation** please make arrangements to have a neighbor or friend pick up your vegetables so they don't go to waste or you may contact us ahead and we will drop your box of vegetables at Avail or an Assisted Living facility with a note of your donation. If a friend is picking them up for you, be sure to tell them what color box to pick up for you.

Have a question, request or a recipe you'd like to share? Throw it in your returning box or email us and we will answer it or share it in the next newsletter. We LOVE getting recipes that already has the thumbs up approval of one of our CSA members. Rhubarb, romaine, radish, spinach etc. are in the first box...anyone? A great salad dressing? A rhubarb dessert? What about bok choy?

We will be **emailing the newsletters weekly**, this will save time, money and trees. We like to send these out Wednesday evening (sometimes late) before our Thursday delivery. This works well as a reminder and also lets you know what to expect in your box. We will still have a hard copy on every site so you will be able to read the newsletter if you wish before you leave the store/farm/lake. For those of you who do not have an email address, there will be extra copies for you at the pick-up sites with your name on. **If you have an email address, please leave the newsletters at the pickup sites for those who don't....big thanks.**

We will keep you all posted with any new updates. Otherwise look for an email next Wednesday evening to see "what's in the box"

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!

www.mcdougalsfarm.com On the site you will find answers to frequently asked questions, old newsletters, lots of pictures, recipes and more. The site is always changing with more being added all the time, so check in once in a while.