

Thank you for your interest in Provident Organic Farms, CSA. Farmer Jay Martin, an organic grower with over 25 years of farming experience, oversees Provident Organic Farms – CSA, a network of eight farmers that serves more than 200 families. We offer a 31 week season starting the week of April 20, 2010 and ending the week of November 15, 2010.

**Shared Risks/Shared Rewards** -- In our CSA, members pay before the season begins so that our farmers are able meet early season expenses related to growing the produce for the CSA. Our members share the risks of farming (late frost, drought, wind, pests and excessive rain) so the farmer does not lose his/her income due to acts of nature. In exchange, as the harvest comes in, the CSA supplies members with a weekly supply of fresh, organically grown produce. The farmer uses all of his knowledge and skill to grow healthy, delicious organically grown vegetables, using sustainable agricultural practices, and members enjoy the bounty. Like buying stock, however, members are not guaranteed a return. Since nature provides no guarantees, neither can the CSA.

**How It Works** -- The CSA provides in-season, locally-grown produce, so the type of produce and amount in the weekly share will vary based on the season. During the season, members pick up their produce once a week at a designated point. We have pick up locations in Salisbury on Tuesdays, Berlin on Fridays and Easton on Saturdays. If a member is unable to pick up their share (i.e. vacation), members may offer their share to a friend or donate it to someone in need. With each share comes a newsletter. All members are invited to periodic "Steering Wheels" meetings to share ideas and participate in the success of Provident Organic Farms CSA.

**Type of Shares** -- This year we offer Full and Half shares. A Full Share easily feeds a family of four or a couple with a largely vegetarian diet. A Half Share will likely satisfy a single vegan/vegetarian adult who eats only home-prepared meals or two adult omnivores who regularly eat other than home prepared meals. The Half Share is designed for those who could not find a partner to split their share or those who prefer to manage their shares alone. You may still split a Full Share, but the division logistics remain your responsibility.

**Costs and Payment Plans** --When you sign up, you commit yourself to being a CSA member for the entire season. The cost for the season is \$775 for a Full Share or \$425 for a Half Share. A Full Share is equivalent to only \$25/week. We encourage you to send one check for the full amount by April 15, 2010. This enables us to provide financial assistance to our farmers with their start up expenses. If one lump sum is not feasible, you may participate in our payment plan. For Full Shares, simply send \$175 and up to six post-dated checks for the balance (\$600). For Half Shares, send \$125 and up to three posted dated checks for the balance (\$300). All checks must be dated before July 1, 2010. **Your membership form and payment (including post dated check for payment plans) are due by April 15, 2010.** If for any reason, joining the CSA is financially prohibitive, we encourage you to apply for funds from our Medora Harvest Fund, where we can offer members in need a sliding scale membership price. See [www.providentfarm.com](http://www.providentfarm.com) for more on the Medora Harvest Fund.

**Volunteering and Working Shares for the Farm** --We encourage all members to volunteer with the harvest or special projects. We offer working shares too. A working share involves a commitment to volunteer at least 30 hours during the season. A refund of \$100 will be offered at the end of the season to working share members. We cannot compensate volunteers beyond the cost of their share.

Our web site [www.providentfarm.com](http://www.providentfarm.com) has a wealth of information about our CSA. Please take a moment to explore. Please contact Amy Liebman at 410.860.9850 or [aliebman@comcast.net](mailto:aliebman@comcast.net) with any questions.

## Provident Organic Farms CSA 2010 Membership Form

Please return this form with your check(s)

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you sharing your share? On the reverse side, please list the contact information of the other individuals or families participating in your membership.**

**PICK UP LOCATION (CHOOSE ONE):**

**Salisbury** –Tuesdays: 4-7 pm at Asbury Church on Camden Avenue (just south of Salisbury University)

**Berlin**—Fridays: 10 am-3 pm at the Berlin Farmers’ Market (available at Cascio/Munson home after 3 pm)

**Easton** – Saturdays: 9-12pm at the Farmers’ Market (405 S. Washington Street)

**SHARE TYPE/COST:** We offer a 31 one week season. You may purchase a FULL SHARE for \$775 (about \$25 per week) or a HALF SHARE for \$425. Typically, a Full Share feeds a family of four. The Half Share is designed for those who could not find a partner to split their share or those who prefer to manage their shares alone. Unsure about which share is right for you? Visit [www.providentfarm.com](http://www.providentfarm.com). You may still split a Full Share, but the division logistics remain your responsibility.

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| <b>Full Share:</b> \$775   |  |
| <b>Half Share:</b> \$425   |  |
| <b>New Member Fee:</b> \$25 <i>New members pay a one-time registration fee. With this comes a tote bag for your share, a bumper sticker and a copy of SIMPLY IN SEASON, an excellent cookbook full of seasonally based recipes. Duplicates of each are available to purchase for those of you who are splitting a share.</i> |  |
| <b>Total Due</b>   |  |

**PAYMENT**--Payment by April 15, 2010. You may send one check for the full amount by April 15, 2010. If one lump sum is not feasible, you may participate in our payment plan. For full shares, simply send \$175 (\$200 for new members) and up to six post-dated checks for the balance. For half shares, send \$125 (\$150 for new members) and up to three posted dated checks for the balance. You may specify the dates you would like each check cashed. The final date should be dated no later than July 1. Make check(s) payable to Provident Organic Farms. Mail checks and this form to:

Provident Organic Farm  
P.O. Box 62  
Bivalve, MD 21814

I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER:             YES             NO

I WOULD LIKE A WORKING SHARE:     YES             NO

WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT OUR CSA?