

The Sisters of the Humility of Mary, Villa Maria Farm Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) 2024 Information

About Us

Villa Maria Farm is a *Certified Organic Farm* situated on 761 acres of land owned by the Sisters of the Humility of Mary and is located near the Pennsylvania-Ohio border just South of Route 422. The Sisters and/or their employees have operated this farm for over 150 years. The current farm encompasses 251 acres of tillable ground which is all certified organic including up to ten acres of gardens. Another 400+ acres of land remain a sustainably managed forest and forested wetlands and includes 95 acres designated as an Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary. As a ministry of the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, the Villa Maria Farm is committed to donating as much as half of its produce to food banks and shelters in Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio.

We operate a year-round greenhouse where certified organic produce starts are seeded as well as seasonal flowers including bedding plants, hanging baskets, fall mums, Christmas poinsettias and Easter flowers. This year will be our eleventh season utilizing a 2000+ sq. ft. high tunnel and our seventh season utilizing a comparably sized second high tunnel. High tunnels are essentially greenhouses that sit over a garden. This structure allows us to extend our growing season on both sides of the outdoor growing season as well as excluding deer and groundhogs. This year we are excited to begin our fourteenth year of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

Share Information

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) consists of a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm where the farmers (us!) and consumers (you!) share the risks and benefits of food production. For the Sisters of the Humility of Mary, Villa Maria Farm, this means we commit to provide you with fresh, seasonal, certified organic produce, fruit, flowers, and herbs and you provide us with support so that we can continue farming in an environmentally, sustainable way!

A farm share means participating in a 16-week growing season, starting in or around mid-June and running through around early to mid-October *weather permitting*. Selections and quantities will vary throughout the growing season. We will offer a wide variety of certified organic produce in each share. Optional shares of fresh cut flowers will also be available. If there are items in your share you are not familiar with, let us know! We are happy to provide recipes or ideas about how to prepare it.

Share pick up days will take place at Villa Maria Farm on Wednesdays from 12pm – 5pm and Saturdays from 10am – 2pm. If you have questions or would like more information about the Villa Maria Farm CSA program, please contact John Moreira (Director of Land Management) at (724) 964-8920 x3385 or by email <u>jmoreira@humilityofmary.org</u>.

Working Vegetable Share \$425	-Will feed 2-4 people over 16 weeks -Requires 20 hours work on the farm through the course of the CSA growing season.
Non-working Vegetable Share \$525	-Will feed 2-4 people over 16 weeks -Requires no work on the farm. (Although volunteering at the farm is always welcomed!)
Half Vegetable Share \$300	-Will feed 1-2 people over 16 weeks -Requires no work on the farm. (Although volunteering at the farm is always welcomed!)
Flower Share \$75 + \$4.50 tax = \$79.50	-Will include a fresh cut bouquet of flowers each week for 10 weeks from early July through early September.

You can choose what type of share best fits your needs. This year we will offer:

To give you an idea of what to expect, here are examples of produce you will find in your vegetable shares for June, July, August, and September: *Subject to change depending on availability and weather*.

June: Salad Mix Green Onions Summer Squash: Zucchini, Yellow Squash Cucumbers Lettuce Heads Radishes Mesculin Greens Swiss Chard Broccoli Snap Peas Early Blueberries Spinach Bok Choy Kale	July: Beets Onions Cucumbers Pickling Cucumbers Summer Squash Early Potatoes Eggplant Green Peppers Green Beans Early Tomatoes Cherry Tomatoes Tomatillo Broccoli Kohlrabi Blueberries
August:	September:
Sweet Corn	Butternut Squash
Onions	Acorn Squash
Summer Squash	Delicata Squash
Cucumbers	Buttercup Squash
Delicata Squash	Pie Pumpkin
Carrots	Potatoes
Broccoli Sprigs	Eggplant
Cauliflower	Peppers
Slicing Tomatoes	Salad Mix
Saucing Tomatoes	Head Lettuce
Cherry Tomatoes	Late Tomatoes
Salsa Kit	Hot Peppers
Potatoes	Broccoli
Peppers	Jack-O-Lantern Pumpkin
Melons	Chestnuts
Green Beans	Apples
Yellow Beans	Pears
Blueberries	Bok Choy
Cabbages	Melons