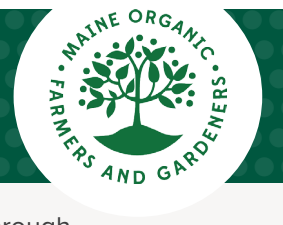


What is a CSA?



Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a system for consumers and farmers to connect through season-long commitments to each other, with shares (or subscriptions) sold prior to the season, and regular distributions of the farm's products throughout the season.

The farmer and CSA member are partners in a dynamic relationship; they share risks (of a crop failure, for example) and rewards! Most CSAs feature vegetables and fruits—and others offer meat, dairy products, and more. Each CSA is a little different. MOFGA is proud to work closely with many certified organic farms that run CSA programs!

How CSAs work



CSA members pay for “shares” at the beginning of the season, either in full or in payments.



This funding helps the farmer pay early expenses, such as seeds, labor, and soil amendments.



During the season, the farmer harvests the food when it is ready.



CSA members pick up their share (usually weekly) at the farm or other pick-up site.

Farmers and CSA members benefit from this relationship!

The farmer receives:

Money upfront:

The CSA member ‘buys in’ to the farm. This financial commitment allows the farmer to get through low cash-flow periods in the year.

Steadfast support:

By signing up for a season’s worth of produce, the CSA member says to the farmer “I’ll be here no matter what. You can count on my business and my support.”

Connection:

Often farmers get to know their CSA members. Their appreciation can be very rewarding!



The CSA member receives:

Great food:

A reliable source of nourishing, safe and delicious food! Plus, the chance to explore seasonal eating and try new foods.

Convenience:

A selection of fresh food is made available for pick-up at the farm, or for delivery to a local site.

Connection:

An opportunity to connect with their farmer and hear about both the challenges and the successes of farming.