WHAT IS A CSA?

In a CSA (consumer supported agriculture), customers pay for "shares" and receive a percentage of the products harvested from local farms. Shares are available from farms and farm cooperatives throughout Western PA. Customers pick a designated site such as a home, business, or church for pickup. CSAs have gained popularity over the years and farms have responded by offering a variety of options:

Weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly shares
Small and large shares
Organic or certified naturally grown
Dietary concerns such as vegan or
gluten-free shares
Customized orders
Paying weekly or as you order

TIPS FOR BUYING A CSA SHARE

- **1.** Share! Share a "share" with a friend or family member.
- **2.** Drop! Pick a drop site convenient to your home or work.
- **3.** Cook! Use fresh ingredients each week to make meals at home.
- **4.** Farms may add a site if there is a minimum of 10-15 customers.
- **5.** Many CSAs provide recipes that incorporate a week's harvest.
- 6. CSAs are not always produce-based.
- **7.** Some have meat, cheese, eggs, flowers, and other products made from farmed produce or livestock. Other CSAs work cooperatively with each other to supply their shareholders' needs. This might mean that a CSA provides produce, meat, eggs, and flowers while other products are brought in through other farmers.



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Blackberry Meadows blackberry meadows.com

Blue Goose Farm bluegoosefarmnicktown.com

Brenckle's Oganic Farm & Greenhouse

brencklesfarm.com

Cherry Valley Organics cherryvalleyorganics.com

Dillner Family Farms dillnerfamilyfarms.com

Dream Thyme facebook.com/dreamthymefarm

Edible Earth Farm edibleearthfarm.com

Footprints Farm footprintsfarm.com

Harvest Valley Farms harvestvalleyfarms.com

Harvie Farms Pittsburgh harvie.Farm

Medium Rare Foods mediumrarefoods.com

Northwest PA Growers Cooperative nwpagrowers.com

The Family Cow yourfamilyfarmer.com

The Marketplace At Emerald Valley themarketplacevfs.Square.Site

Who Cooks For You Farm whocooksforyoufarm.com

ARMSTRONG COUNTY

Five Elements Farm fiveelementsfarm.com

Who Cooks For You Farm who cooks for you farm.com

BEAVER COUNTY

Cherry Valley Organics cherryvalleyorganics.com

Conforti Family Farm confortifamilyfarm.com

Dillner Family Farms dillnerfamilyfarms.com

Medium Rare Foods mediumrarefoods.com

The Family Cow yourfamilyfarmer.com

Farm To Table

BLAIR COUNTY

Blue Goose Farm bluegoosefarmnicktown.com

Friends farm facebook.com/friendsfarmmarket

BUTLER COUNTY

Brenckle's Organic Farm & Greenhouse brencklesfarm.com

Dream Thyme facebook.com/dreamthymefarm

Five Elements Farm fiveelementsfarm.com

Freedom Farms freedomfarmspa.com

Harvest Valley Farms harvestvalleyfarms.com

Medium Rare Foods (south butler) mediumrarefoods.com

Northwest Pennsylvania Growers Cooperative nwpagrowers.com

The Family Cow yourfamilyfarmer.com

CAMBRIA COUNTY

Blue Goose Farm bluegoosefarmnicktown.com

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Link's Heritage Farm linksheritagefarm.com

Northwest Pennsylvania Growers cooperative nwpagrowers.com

Plot Twist Farm plottwistfarm.com

Strawberry Lane Produce harvie.Farm/profile/strawberry-laneproduce

ERIE COUNTY

Burch Farms burchfarmscountrymarketandwinery.com

Mason Farms masonfarms.com

Post Apples Farm postapples.com

FAYETTE COUNTY

Footprints Farm footprintsfarm.com

Sarver's Hill Farm & CSA sarverhillfarm.org

The Family Cow yourfamilyfarmer.com

FULTON COUNTY

Farm Of Peace farmofpeace.com

INDIANA COUNTY

Blue Goose Farm bluegoosefarmnicktown.com

The Family Cow yourfamilyfarmer.com

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Villa Maria Farm/Sisters of the Humility Of Marv. humilityofmarv.org/the-villa/the-villa-farm

MERCER COUNTY

Dream Thyme facebook.com/dreamthymefarm

Edible Earth Farm edibleearthfarm.com

Northwest Pennsylvania Growers Cooperative nwpagrowers.com

SOMERSET COUNTY

Blue Goose Farm bluegoosefarmnicktown.com

VENANGO COUNTY

Northwest Pennsylvania Growers Cooperative nwpagrowers.com

Plot Twist Farm plottwistfarm.com

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Cherry Valley Organics cherryvalleyorganics.com

The Marketplace At Emerald Valley themarketplacevfs.Square.Site

Edible Earth Farm edibleearthfarm.com

Harvie Farms harvie.Farm

Stone Church Acres stonechurchacres.com

The Family Cow yourfamilyfarmer.com

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Footprints Farm footprintsfarm.com

Medium Rare Foods (Irwin & Murrysville) mediumrarefoods.com

Sarver's Hill Farm & CSA sarverhillfarm.Ne

HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CSA?

We are lucky to live in a place that can provide nutritious, locally grown food. Buying farm-fresh products and preparing them at home is a healthy alternative to eating preservatives. The key to eating locally is to make a commitment to eat seasonally. Eat greens, asparagus, and berries in spring. You can then progress to tomatoes, corn, zucchini, and melons throughout the summer. Move on to autumn crops, such as potatoes, more greens, and squash in the fall. Summer is the time to preserve the harvest. A simple internet search will provide direction and know-how for canning, fermenting, drying and freezing your favorite summer produce. Buy a few extra quarts of blueberries each week and freeze them. You will be rewarded in mid-winter when you're mixing your local food smoothies. The farm stands and stores, farmers' markets and retail stores that sell these local products are located throughout allegheny county. Farmers' markets typically run once a week for about four hours at a time. Ask your favorite restaurant if they buy from local farms. If you notice specials that contain seasonal ingredients, they are most likely getting these from a local producer. Lastly, start a garden and grow your own food! The easiest plants and some of the most delicious are tomatoes and basil. You will be rewarded with the freshest tasting ingredients.