## **Needham launches Community Farm program**

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Needham recently launched a community supported agriculture program called the Needham Community Farm. [Courtesy Photo]

Needham recently launched a community supported agriculture program called the Needham Community Farm.

The Needham Community Farm, a local nonprofit whose mission is to educate the community on sustainable growing and nutrition, while also providing food to those experiencing food insecurity. Roughly two dozen residents have subscribed up to be part of the Community Supported Agriculture.

"We are very excited to begin our farm share and can not wait to have the fresh produce," said Ed Anderson.

Board president Susan Shaver spearheaded the program as a way to expand the impact of the farm and serve families passionate about local food. "Starting a CSA is a win-win for the Needham Community Farm and for Needham," Shaver said. "It allows the Farm to retain a full time skilled and experienced farm manager, while maintaining food donations to the Needham Community Council's Food Pantry and through our mobile markets at Needham Housing Authority locations. Twenty families in Needham can now enjoy locally grown produce while helping our neighbors in need."

Through the program, subscribers receive fresh, locally grown produce. Farm manager Theresa Strachila noted the popularity of CSA programs in Needham and elsewhere.

"The farm is excited about the prospects of expanding the number of CSA shares next year and is pleased that this year's shares sold out quickly," said Strachila. "The demand for locally sustainably grown vegetables exceeds supply and helping others while eating well makes sense."

For more information, contact the Needham Community Farm at 781-343-1106.

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