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March 2025 Newsletter

Needham Community Farm <farmmanager-needhamfarm.org@shared1.ccsend.com>

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Reply-To: office@needhamfarm.org

To: csodano@needhamfarm.org



March 2025 Newsletter

Notes From the Field

Hi Folks -

While funding is being cut for many food assistance programs, we want to reassert our commitment to providing fresh, nutritious, and delicious food to members of our community at all income levels. Our Mobile Market serves 50 to 100 residents of Needham per week during harvest season. This food is completely free to folks who may not otherwise have access to it. We have been fortunate to be able to offer this food completely free without relying on SNAP, EBT, HIP, or other government programs. We would not be able to continue this work without your support!

While many other channels for fighting food insecurity are being reduced, we are doing more than ever - thanks to all our donors, supporters, and more! Our expansion this year, doubling the production size of our Farm, allows us to undertake two actions: sell more food through our CSA so that we can increase our free food distributions at our Mobile Market and Needham Community Council Food Pantry.

In this time of tumultuous politics, we also want to reaffirm our commitment to creating a space for community members to come together. Our Monday night Garden Class will be very welcoming and collaborative as folks plant together. While folks in our Wednesday night class will have their own individual beds, we hope the experience will increase connections amongst class members and others gardening in the Community Garden Beds.

I've also found that our volunteer programs are another important way we build community, as they bring such diverse groups to the Farm for a common goal! We love having intergenerational groups of folks from all backgrounds at the farm, and strive to create a safe space for all!

Please join us in this work! You can register for a volunteer session or Garden Class below.

See you on the Farm,

Avery Westa
Farm Manager

Summer CSA: Register for Your Share Now



Shares are going quickly! Get yours today before they're gone!

What do you get with your Summer CSA share? 20 boxes - 1 per week - of the freshest, most local veggies in Needham. Everything from eggplant, to garlic, to basil, to all types of tomatoes, and LOTS MORE! You can check out our growing chart [here](#).

Local pickup in downtown Needham. Plus, every year we've exceeded the value of the box, when compared to local grocery prices. Our CSA can help you save money too!

[Sign up today!](#)

Community Garden Bed Registration is Open



The Needham Community Garden Beds are going fast! Come join a great community for the 2025 growing season. The Community Garden Beds are a separate area of the Farm that house 150 raised beds for seasonal lease.

What do you get when you register for a NCF Community Garden Bed? All registrations include seasonal lease of 4'x12' garden bed. All beds contain soil and compost, and any gardener can use the supplies on site, including wheel barrows, hand tools, hoses and more.

So come join this new, great community on the Farm!

[Register NOW!](#)

April Break Programming: Register Now

There are still spots left in NCF's new programming for your teen or tween this April break!

Middle and high school students will assist with farm projects like planting, bed preparation, and composting, all while learning about sustainable agriculture and food systems.

Middle schoolers will explore farm work in a fun, educational setting.

And High schoolers will volunteer, supporting lead teachers and earning CSL hours—perfect for leadership-minded teens.



SPRING BREAK MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Program details:

- Time: April break ✓
- Learn about sustainable farming ✓
- Help with farm chores and gardening ✓
- Ages: 11-14 ✓

REGISTER NOW

needhamfarm.org

[Enroll your teen or tween now](#)

2025 Garden Classes - Limited Spots Left



Needham Community Farm

2025 Garden Classes

Choose from 3 options!

- MON NIGHT COLLECTIVE GROWERS**
- WEDS NIGHT INDEPENDENT GROWERS**
- THURS NIGHT VIRTUAL CLASS**

ENROLL TODAY

Two of our three Gardening Class offerings are almost full, so if you'd like to participate this season, sign up now - before it's too late:

Monday Night Collective Growers - Limited spots left! This beginner class is ideal for individuals and/or families, and provides a supportive, hands-on and community-based environment! Class will be located on the Farm.

Wednesday Night Independent Growers - Limited spots left! At a new location (Community Garden Beds), this class for intermediate students can enjoy improved pest control and more accessible gardening beds. Ideal for independent/seasoned gardeners!

Virtual Gardening Class - This virtual class is designed for all gardeners-whether you are just starting your gardening journey or you are years in! Enjoy from the comfort of your own home!

[Register for Classes](#)

Volunteer Opportunities: Sign up for Spring!

Returning volunteers: all your favorite sessions are now available at the link below. We'll be doing a lot of bed prep, Farm cleanup, and more.

New to volunteering at NCF? Come join us on the Farm, surrounded by fresh air, and make a real impact! Whether you're an experienced gardener or just excited to learn, we provide a friendly and



inclusive space for everyone.

If you'd like to bring a group with you to volunteer, please visit the 'Volunteer Group' section of our website [here](#) and submit a request form.

[Register to volunteer now!](#)

Save the Date: 2025 SEEDLING SALE



Our Annual Seedling Sale is back for its 5th year on Saturday May 17th!

This year's sale will feature seedlings grown by our Farm staff on the Farm, including a wide variety of all your favorites!

Stay tuned for more details and a list of available seedlings. See you there!

Community Events



Plugged In Band Program is excited to host the **2nd Annual Dirty Water Music Festival** at Needham Town Hall.

Live Boston-based bands will perform all night. This fun night of live music bring several great bands together!

Time + Date: April 5, 2025 - 6-10pm

Location: Powers Hall at Needham Town Hall

More details [here!](#)

Farm View



Seedlings such as parsley, onion, and shallot getting started in the greenhouse earlier this month!



Garlic just peeking through the soil at our new beds at Pine St.

Donations always accepted!

Donations can be made by clicking on the button below, by visiting our website at needhamfarm.org or by sending a check made payable to the Needham Community Farm and mail to P.O. Box 920877, Needham, MA 02492.

Donate Now!

Thank You to Our 2024 - 2025 Food Donation Program Sponsors



Beth Israel Lahey Health 
Beth Israel Deaconess Needham



Needham Community Farm



Needham Community Farm | PO Box 920877 | Needham, MA 02492 US

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