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May 2025 Newsletter

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

Wed, May 14, 2025 at 7:03 PM

Reply-To: office@needhamfarm.org

To: csodano@needhamfarm.org



May 2025 Newsletter

Notes From the Field

Hi everyone,

I know I always say we've been busy at the Farm, but we've been especially busy lately! We are almost done getting our high tunnel built and we have been preparing many new beds for planting. Because of these two big projects, we've been a little behind on planting and cultivation, but we're catching up quickly!

It is also our first year producing all the seedlings for our Seedling Sale ourselves! In previous years, our Board Vice President, Joe Leghorn, produced most of the seedlings. This year, he handed us the reins and we went pretty hard! We have SO many tomatoes, and they are looking very healthy! We have more seedlings than ever before, so we hope you'll support us this weekend!

With all these new projects, I am feeling excited for the start of CSA season in just a few weeks! I think we will settle into a bit more of a rhythm at the Farm. Although summer is always busy for farmers, I find that it's a bit more organized and there's more of a routine. I'm looking forward to that after a somewhat chaotic spring!

Hope to see you on Saturday at the sale! More details on that below.

Avery Westa
Farm Manager

5th Annual Seedling Sale: THIS Saturday



Our Seedling Sale is happening this Saturday, starting at 9am! We will be out in front of Newman School again, next to the Historical Society with all your favorite plants, herbs, and flowers.

Date + Time: May 17, 9am - 1pm

Location: [1155 Central Ave Needham MA](#) (Newman Elementary)

Seedlings for 2025:

Lots of varieties of our most popular seedlings: Tomatoes, Peppers, Eggplants, Cucumbers, and Summer Squash! Also beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Lettuce, Kale, Onions, Spinach, and Winter Squash! Plus Herbs + Flowers!

Don't forget - all proceeds benefit Needham

Community Farm, helping to ensure we can continue our vital hunger relief, education and volunteer programs, and more for this community!

It's Not Too Late - Register for a Community Bed!



The Needham Community Garden Beds are going fast! There are only 9 beds available for rent (out of 150) for the 2025 season. There's still time to grow a fantastic garden this year.

"My experience with the community beds has been wonderful. It's been a great way to meet people who share a common interest and are happy to share their gardening wisdom."

-- Community Bed Gardener

So come see for yourself, and join this new, great community on the Farm!

[Register NOW!](#)

Volunteer Opportunities: Still Spring Slots left!

Spring is busy and hectic on the Farm, which means we need your help! Sign up now to join us as we prep for our high harvest season; from weeding, to digging, to composting and more, your work is pivotal to our success this year.

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.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



If you are interested in giving back to the community, then you are at the right place!

[Register to Volunteer](#)

Now Hiring: Summer Interns



We are looking for college-aged students with a passion for sustainable farming, food justice, and hands-on participation in farm operations. You will work closely with the Assistant Farm Manager and Farm Manager in all aspects of our work according to your skills and interests. NCF is also responsive to working with the intern to further their personal farming and food production related goals.

This is an unpaid opportunity for up to 30 hours per week. If you are applying through a higher education institution, we encourage these applicants to seek funding from their educational institutions or apply to earn credit. Interns will be able to bring home vegetables to enjoy.

If you are interested, please visit our intern posting [here](#) to apply!

Shoutout to One of Our Biggest Supporters!

Beth Israel Lahey Health 
Beth Israel Deaconess Needham

Needham Community Farm would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Beth-Israel Deaconess Hospital -Needham for being a steadfast supporter of our organization over the past several years.

Their generosity has helped us grow more food, foster connections, and create a healthier, more resilient community. We are so grateful for their continued partnership and support of our mission and programs.

Our new High Tunnel: Update



Getting the sides onto the new high tunnel!



Just about complete



Tomatoes already in their new home

This new high tunnel was made possible through the Commonwealth's 2024 Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program. We're deeply grateful for their continued support of NCF and for helping us invest in essential infrastructure. Thanks to this grant, we were also able to purchase a new BCS tractor and attachments - key tools that will enhance our growing capacity this season and beyond!

Community Events



Community Conversations on Race: Becoming an Inclusive Community

A joint collaboration, this workshop will be focused on race and racism, history, shared language, self-reflection, upstanding and equity. Open to all high schoolers and adults. Walk-ins are welcome but registration is encouraged to help with planning.

To learn more and register, go [here](#).

Time + Date: May 22 - 6:30 pm: food and refreshments; 6:45 - 8:45: program

Location: Community Room at the Needham Free Public Library

Farm View



Kale that is almost ready for harvesting
situated to the side of the main production
fields, in new rows



Seedlings from our greenhouse, just
about ready for the Seedling Sale!

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



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