

Spring 2017 Farm Shares

Become a Grow Dat Farm Share Member Today!

What are Grow Dat Farm Shares?

Our 23-week-long Farm Share initiative is an opportunity for customers to enjoy chemical-free, fresh produce while investing in our farm and youth leadership program. Farm Shares are a form of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), a way for the community to become “member-investors” who receive a portion of the farm’s harvest every week. For decades, CSAs have supported small-scale farmers and strengthened local food systems. Members experience the seasonal fluctuations of the farm’s produce, a process that teaches consumers more about the natural cycles of food production. Farms benefit by receiving upfront, steady income from members, minimizing some of the risks that come with small-scale farming. At Grow Dat, all Farm Share proceeds support our youth program, which nurtures the leadership skills of teenagers employed in the meaningful work of growing healthy food.

How Does It Work?

Farm Shares run for 23 weeks, from January 18 - July 1. Members are responsible for picking up their weekly produce box at our farm site in City Park on Wednesday evenings (4-6pm) or Saturday mornings (9am-12pm); members may choose pickup day while availability lasts. (Note: Farm Shares will be suspended during the week leading up to Mardi Gras, February 22 + 25 and will resume Feb. 2 + 4). If you or a friend can’t pick-up your box for a given week, you have the option of donating that week’s share to Grow Dat youth and their families.

Your share will consist of a variety of vegetables and herbs sustainably grown on our farm and will change on a weekly basis. One share will generally supply a family of 2-4 for a week (depending on a family’s weekly vegetable intake). Each week share members receive a box of produce that will regularly include what we like to call “the base of the box:” 1) a ¼ lb. bag of our signature salad mix, 2) one bunch of kale, 3) one bunch of chard OR collards (farmer’s choice based on availability) and 4) fresh herbs. In addition to the weekly “base,” you will receive seasonal herbs and vegetables including basil, beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumber, eggplant, beans, leek, mustards, green onions, hot peppers, potatoes, radishes, sugar snap peas, squash, cherry tomatoes, tat soi, turnips and zucchini and more! See below table for seasonal availability.

Expected Produce Availability (Tentative)

Week	Expected Crops
Continuous availability for most of these crops until mid-May	Base of the Box: GD Salad Mix (red and green lettuces, arugula, Asian mustards, endive, radicchio), kale, chard, collards, herbs. When these crops are unavailable, they will be substituted with other seasonal vegetables.
January	radishes, turnips, tat soi, Pac choi, beets, carrots, snap peas, broccoli, cauliflower,
February	radishes, turnips, tat soi, Pac choi, beets, carrots, snap peas, mustards
March	broccoli, cauliflower, snap peas, tat soi, radishes, turnip
April	broccoli, cauliflower, radishes, turnips, squash, zucchini, cherry tomatoes, basil, eggplant, squash, zucchini, potatoes, carrots

May	beans, okra, basil, eggplant, carrots, cherry tomatoes, squash, zucchini, cucumbers
June	hot peppers, beans, okra, basil, eggplant, squash, zucchini, cucumbers, watermelon

In addition to produce, all members receive in their box a weekly newsletter with recipe ideas, farm news, upcoming events and inspiring messages from Grow Dat youth. Each week members will bring their own canvass bag to pick up their share. **Weekly produce may vary from the above list and is subject to change because of unexpected challenges with weather, pests and disease.**

What are the Different Membership Options?

Sustaining Farm Share: \$950

- * 23 weekly produce boxes (\$25 value per box) includes:
 - one ¼ pound bag of our signature salad mix (red and green lettuces, arugula, Asian mustards, endive, radicchio)
 - one ½ pound bunch of chard OR collards (farmer's choice based on availability)
 - one ½ pound bunch of kale
 - one small bag of fresh culinary herbs (rosemary, thyme, dill, basil, chives, or mint)
 - seasonal vegetables based on availability
- * Donation of \$375 (\$16.30 per week) that will underwrite one reduced cost Farm Share for a low-income family from Shared Harvest partner organizations
- * Weekly newsletter with recipe ideas, farm news, upcoming events and inspiring messages from Grow Dat youth
- * Opportunities to volunteer on our farm and participate in farm activities including community lunches with youth, member picnics, and parties

Farm Share: \$575

- * 23 weekly produce boxes (\$25 value per box) includes:
 - one ¼ pound bag of our signature salad mix (red and green lettuces, arugula, Asian mustards, endive, radicchio)
 - one ½ pound bunch of chard OR collards (farmer's choice based on availability)
 - one ½ pound bunch of kale
 - one small bag of fresh culinary herbs (rosemary, thyme, dill, basil, chives, mint)
 - seasonal vegetables based on availability
- * Weekly newsletter with recipe ideas, farm news, upcoming events and inspiring messages from Grow Dat youth
- * Opportunities to volunteer on our farm and participate in farm activities including community lunches with youth, member picnics, and parties

What Are Grow Dat's Farming Practices?

At Grow Dat, we use chemical-free farming methods to build a resilient sustainable agricultural system. To us that means producing food by supporting natural ecological systems and stewarding natural and human resources for the future. We do not use chemical-based pesticides or fertilizers. Instead, we utilize organic techniques such as cover cropping, composting, companion planting, farmscaping and crop rotation to stimulate micro-biological activity and soil health. Simultaneously, we support the growth of young people to become stewards of precious natural resources for future generations.

We wash all produce and use best practices for post-harvest handling because your safety and satisfaction is our top priority. **For your added protection, make sure to wash all produce again before eating.**

Sharing in the Risk of Crop Failure

One aspect of Community Supported Agriculture is that members share in the rewards and in the inherent risks of agriculture including poor weather, flooding, disease, frost, and pest outbreaks. We promise to do our best to provide you with a bountiful share each week. The quantity and variety of produce however, may vary from week to week. When you become a Farm Share member, you agree to share both in the risk of crop failure and the bounty of the season with Grow Dat and other Farm Share members. While Grow Dat will act in good faith to provide a wide variety of produce for the duration of the spring season, there is no guarantee of quantities or contents of weekly shares. Substitutions may be made in the event of crop variety shortages. In the event of major crop failure, you will be notified as soon as possible by e-mail.

Share Pick-Up

You are responsible for picking up your share on **Wednesdays from 4-6pm or Saturdays from 9am-12pm** at our farm site in City Park (150 Zachary Taylor Drive - between Pan Am Stadium and City Bark Dog Park) **rain or shine**. Members may choose pickup day while availability lasts. If you select a pickup day that has reached its quantity limit, you must opt for the other pickup day. Share members may not change their pick-up day during the course of the season. The first share pickups will be Wednesday, January 18 and Saturday, January 21, 2016. When you arrive, you may park either in our designated visitor parking lot or on the side of the road in front of our campus. Please do not drive onto the site.

On Wednesdays, a Grow Dat staff member or adult apprentice will register your pickup, bring you your share box from our cold storage unit. On Saturdays, a Grow Dat youth Crew Member will assist you. On Saturdays, you and your family are welcome to stay and take a youth-guided tour of our farm and/or help Crew Members with morning farm tasks.

If you cannot pick-up your share for any week, you may 1) arrange for someone else (your proxy) to pick it up for you or 2) donate your box to our hunger-relief Shared Harvest donation program. If you know that you will be unable to pick-up your weekly share, please email Leo at leo@growdatyouthfarm.org at least two days in advance to communicate who will be picking up your box or if you would like to donate your box. You are responsible for explaining the pick-up location and procedures to your proxy as well as providing them with your previous week's share box. **Shares that are not retrieved by 6 pm on Wednesdays and 12pm on Saturdays will be donated to Grow Dat youth and their families or to one of our Shared Harvest donation partners.**

IMPORTANT NOTES: Pickup Suspension+ Alternative Pickup Dates/Locations:

Farm share pickups will be suspended during the week leading up to Mardi Gras.

There will be no pickups on February 22 + 25. Pick-ups will resume the following week on Thursday and Saturday. Please note that customers who usually pick-up on Wednesdays will pick-up on Thursday, March 2 from 4-6pm (only for this week!) and then return to normal Wednesday pickup the following week.

On infrequent occasions, share pickup at our farm will not be possible because of events occurring in City Park that limit access to our farm. **Share pickup will NOT take place at Grow Dat Youth Farm on Saturday, April 15, 2016 due to the Crescent City Classic race. It is possible that members will have to pick up their share at the alternative pickup site on dates other than April 15.** We will let you know by email at least two weeks in advance about any change in pickup times and/or locations.

Farm Share Pick-Up Dates and Locations:

Pick-up Date	Pick-up Location	Address	Time	Parking
Normal Wednesdays and Saturdays Start: Wed, Jan. 18/ Sat, Jan. 21 End: Wed, June 28/ Sat. July 1	Grow Dat Youth Farm in City Park	150 Zachary Taylor Dr., NOLA 70124 (between Pan Am Stadium and City Bark)	4-6pm (Wed) 9am-12pm (Sat)	Please park in parking lot or on side of road
February 22 + 25	No Pickup for Mardi Gras			
Thursday, March 2 (*one time Thursday pickup for Wednesday customers)	Grow Dat		4-6pm	
April 15	First Grace United Methodist Church	3401 Canal St., NOLA 70119 (intersection with Jeff Davis)	9am – 12pm	Enter on N. Clark St. to rear parking lot

Communication:

The best way to communicate with us is via email with Farm Manager, Leo Gorman. He can be reached by email at leo@growdatyouthfarm.org or by cell at 504.616.1777. Please contact Leo (**preferably by email**) with any questions, changes to your contact information, changes with your share's ownership, interest in donating your share, problems with pick-up, or feedback about your share.

Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation email welcoming you as a member of our farm. Leo will follow-up a few weeks before season begins with more details. During the season, Leo will communicate with you by email and/or by telephone to deliver any important information about crop failure, pick-up changes, and other share-related news. Additionally, please read your weekly newsletter for information on seasonal recipes, youth program news and upcoming events at the farm.

Registration and Payment:

Memberships are limited to a total of 75 shares and are likely to fill up quickly. The deadline to sign up is January 15, 2016. However, shares are allotted on a first-come, first-serve basis and usually sell out two weeks prior to deadline. To immediately reserve your share, payment must be made electronically with a credit card through our website's secure payment system. You may pay the full \$575 amount or in two installments of \$287.50. Full payment is strongly preferred as it allows us invest on the front end of our main growing season. If you choose to pay in installments, your credit card will be charged \$287.50 upon registering and charged \$287.50 again on March 21, 2017. If paying in installments, please be advised that your credit card will automatically be charged on March 18 and that there are no full or partial refunds after January 15.

Cancellations and Refunds:

Partial refunds are only available prior to January 15, 2017 at 5pm, three days before the season begins. A 10% cancellation fee (of your share price) will be charged to your credit card with the remaining amount credited back to your card. If you wish to cancel your membership and receive a partial refund, please email Leo Gorman at leo@growdatyouthfarm.org before 5pm on January 15, 2017. You will receive an email verifying your cancelation and a receipt of your refund within five business days.

Grow Dat does not offer refunds for shares after 5pm on January 15, 2017. By joining the Farm Share Program, you are supporting Grow Dat Youth Farm and the youth we serve. As a shareholder in both the bounty and the risk, nature ultimately decides what you will receive and when you will receive it.

If for any reason, you are unable to continue with the Farm Share Program, you may either 1) donate your produce to Grow Dat youth or our hunger relief partners or 2) find a friend to buy out your share. However, if a friend buys out your share you must handle ALL agreements and cash transactions on your own. If you wish to donate the remainder of your share or have a friend buy out your share, please email Leo at least one week prior to the change date. Any buyer of the share must be able to pick up at our farm and when necessary, our alternative pick-up site.

Cancellation and Refund Policy Summary:

Cancellation Date	Refund Amount	Options
Before January 15, 5pm	Partial refund – 10% cancellation fee (of share price) charged to credit card and remainder returned	Continue to support Grow Dat by buying produce at our weekly on-site Saturday farm stand or volunteering
After January 15, 5pm	No refund available	1) Donate share to Grow Dat youth or hunger relief donation program 2) Ask a friend to buy out your share

To become a member-investor in our farm, click on the membership option you prefer below. Fill out the registration and agreement information and get ready for those veggies!

Thank you for supporting young leaders and sustainable agriculture in New Orleans!

**Terms of Agreement
Grow Dat Youth Farm Spring 2017 Farm Share Program**

General Policies and Conditions

I appreciate locally grown, chemical-free produce and want to ensure that it remains available in New Orleans. By participating in Grow Dat Farm Shares I understand that Grow Dat pledges to do their best to provide the vegetables and herbs they propose at the estimated times.

In 2016, Grow Dat grew 18,000 pounds of produce on 1.25 acres of land, and Grow Dat anticipates another bountiful season in 2017. However, as a shareholder, I understand that I am sharing the bounty as well as the risk associated with the unpredictable nature of farming.

I have read the payment and refund policy below and understand that there are no refunds of my Farm Share after January 15, 2017 at 5pm, even in the event of a complete or partial crop failure. I am supporting the Grow Dat youth leadership program and the youth it serves through my Farm Share membership.

The Grow Dat Farm Share Program will span 23 weeks during which I will receive a variety of fresh produce. The Spring Farm Share program will begin January 18 and end July 1, 2017. I agree to pay the full amount of the membership option I have selected at the time of my registration or in two installments.

I understand that I am responsible for picking up my share rain or shine on Wednesdays (4-6pm) or Saturdays (9am and 12pm) at the Grow Dat Youth Farm site in City Park. My pickup day is either Wednesday or Saturday and based on availability at the time of registration. I may not change my pick-up day during the course of the season. I understand that when access to the farm is restricted, I will pick up my share at the designated alternative pick-up location. If I cannot pick-up my share for any week, I understand I should contact Leo Gorman at least two days before the pick-up Saturday to communicate who my proxy will be or if I wish to donate my box. I am responsible for explaining the pick-up location, times, and procedures (including for alternative pick-up location information) to my proxy as well as providing them with my previous week's share box. If my share is not retrieved by 6pm on Wednesdays and 12 pm on Saturdays it will be donated to Grow Dat youth and their families or to one of our Shared Harvest donation partners.

I understand that on infrequent occasions, share pickup at our farm will not be possible because of races or other events occurring in City Park that limit access to our farm. I understand that it is possible that I will have to pickup my share at the below alternative pickup site on dates other than the confirmed date listed below. I understand that Grow Dat will communicate with me by email at least two weeks in advance about any change in pickup times and/or locations.

I understand there are no pickups during the Mardi Gras week of February 22 + 25, 2017. I understand that share pickup will NOT take place at Grow Dat Youth Farm on Saturday, April 15, 2017 due to the Crescent City Classic Race and I should pick up my share at the alternative share pick-up site – the rear parking lot of First Grace United Methodist Church (3401 Canal St. on the corner of Jefferson Davis). Entrance on N. Clark St. The pickup time will be the same day and time: Saturday morning, 9am – 12pm.

I understand that the best way to discuss any changes to my contact information, problems with the pick-up, or dissatisfaction with my share is with Farm Manager, Leo Gorman.

Payment and Refund Policy

I understand that to reserve my share I must pay electronically with a credit card through Grow Dat's website's secure payment system. I may pay the full \$575 amount or in two installments of \$287.50. I understand that if I choose to pay in installments, my credit card will be charged \$287.50 upon registering and charged \$287.50 again on March 18, 2017. If paying in installments, I understand that my credit card will automatically be charged on March 21, 2017 and that there are no full or partial refunds after January 15, 2017.

Grow Dat does not offer refunds for shares after January 15 at 5pm, even in the event of a complete or partial crop failure. By committing to the Grow Dat Farm Share Program, I am supporting the Grow Dat youth leadership program and the youth they serve. Partial refunds are only available prior to January 15 at 5pm, three days before the beginning of the program. A 10% cancellation fee (of my share price) will be charged to my credit card with the remaining amount credited back to my card. If

I wish to cancel my membership and receive a partial refund, I will email Leo Gorman before 5pm on January 15 at 5pm.

If for any reason, I am unable to continue with the Farm Share Program, I will either donate my produce to Grow Dat youth or hunger relief partners or find a friend to buy out my share. However, if a friend buys out my share I must handle ALL agreements and cash transactions on my own and notify Grow Dat in writing of a name and personal information change for my share. Any buyer of the share must be able to pick up at our farm and when necessary, our alternative pick-up site. I understand that if I wish to donate the remainder of my share or have a friend buy out my share, I will email Leo at least one week prior to the change date.

By clicking below, I agree to purchase the selected membership. I understand that, although unlikely, the farm may change parts of this agreement related to production and distribution from time to time. I understand that they will contact me via email or telephone in advance of any changes to this agreement.