2012 Worker Share Guidelines

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Overview:

Blue Moon is a small farm, and worker share members comprise a strong portion of the farm's labor. Being a worker share member can be a very satisfying way to interact with the farm and experience the changing seasons firsthand. Your work is extremely important to the farm's success! Because your work is so crucial, there are responsibilities that go along with making this commitment.

Worker Share Hours:

There are 2 shifts to choose from: Mondays 8am-12pm or Thursdays 8am-12pm. Members choose their shift on the application form.

Commitment:

- Work Commitment is 100 hours over the course of the farming season.
- This is accomplished by working 4 hrs for every week of the CSA (20 weeks total = 80 hrs of work) plus 20 additional hours during the season
- Worker shares can opt out of the 20 additional hours by paying a $100 membership fee
- Options for working the extra 20 hours include: assisting at the pick-up site on Wednesdays, at farm events, at the farmers markets, or on other work mornings at the farm. You will be able to sign up for these hours at the beginning of the season.
- Members must work the same 4-hr shift every week of the season. This is important for maintaining continuity and meeting the time-sensitive needs of the farm.
- Worker shares start 2 weeks ahead of the CSA season to allow for 2 absences during the season.

Responsibilities:

- The commitment to be a worker share member is not unlike a job, and carries with it similar expectations: good communication, the ability to take instruction, and to work with speed and accuracy.
- Punctuality is very important in making the best use of your time on the farm. Everyone must be ready to work at 8am.
- We work in all weather—this means rain, wind, intense heat, etc. Worker shares are responsible for arriving dressed to work comfortably. We will also work in kneeling, bending, or crawling positions for extended periods. Applicants must be in good physical health and able to work in the above conditions.
- Schedule summer absences as far in advance as you know them. If you anticipate more than 2 absences this summer, a worker share position may not be for you.
- Worker shares must be able to pick up their share at the regular CSA pick-up time (Wednesdays, 4-7pm at the farm).

Frequently Asked Questions:

Can I share a worker share membership with another person?

Members can share if 1 person is always present for the 4-hour shift each week. This means that members cannot share by working 2 hours together, or 4 hours together every other week. Experience has shown that this is most beneficial for the farm and for the workers.

Can I bring my dog?

Unfortunately not.

Can I bring my children?

If children are under 12, it is not appropriate to bring them. If children are older and interested in participating in the work, call me. We can evaluate it on a case by case basis.

I want to do some work on the farm but don't think I want to commit to being a worker share. Are there other options?

Yes. From June to September, we will have a volunteer work morning every Thursday from 8-12. There will also be Sunday work days announced throughout the season. These provide opportunities to get your hands dirty without making a commitment, and farm veggies are provided to those who participate.

How To Apply

Complete the Worker Share Application and send it in (email or snail mail) by **February 15, 2012**. We will continue to accept applications after the deadline if the slots are not yet filled. You will be notified of your acceptance by **March 1, 2012**.

2012 Worker Share Application

Deadline: February 15, 2012
Notification of acceptance: March 1, 2012

Return to Kristen at: bluemooncommunityfarm@yahoo.com or Blue Moon Community Farm, 3856 Schneider Drive, Stoughton, WI 53589

Name:_____

Address:_____

City: _____Zip:_____

Phone:_____

E-mail:_____

Please choose you preferences:

___ Mondays 8am-12pm

____ Thursdays 8am-12pm

_____ I will sign up for 20 hours of additional farm work to complete my 100 hr commitment

_____ I will pay the $100 membership fee and waive the additional 20 hours

Tell me about yourself:

1. **Why you would like to be a Worker Share at Blue Moon Community Farm**
2. **Any farm/gardening experience you have**