



Why a Workshare?

- Working in exchange for a free CSA share or community garden plot can be an economic benefit for those who appreciate doing physical work
- Workshares can learn hands-on about organic farming
- Workshares can build community, meet people, and make friends
- The farm really appreciates the consistent workshares who contribute both labour and good humour as part of the field team

Workshare or Volunteer?

Working shares differ from volunteering in two main ways:

- The exchange is agreed upon before any work is put in
- The workshare partner commits to coming on a regular, consistent basis

Workshare partners work alongside seasonal farm staff and interns training in organic farming. Workshares are trained for each of their farmwork activities.

Workshare partners not completing their required work hours will void the workshare exchange. Completing two or fewer workshare shifts will be considered a volunteer contribution to the farm, should you change your mind about the workshare exchange. This acknowledges the many ways that volunteers already contribute to the farm, and still pay for their plot or CSA share. Individuals who need to discontinue their workshare can elect to purchase a share or plot.

Each person wishing to do a working share must complete the Workshare Agreement.

Workshare Options

Option A: CSA Workshare

CSA workshares volunteer for a set amount of hours over the growing season, depending on their desired share (see chart below). After successfully completing at least 2 seasons as a CSA workshare, you may be eligible for a senior workshare position.

	Novice Hours	Senior Hours
All-Season - Small	56	42
All-Season - Regular	88	68
Traditional Share - Small	42	34
Traditional Share - Regular	68	54
Early/Mid-Summer or Fall Share – Small	14	N/A
Early/Mid-Summer or Fall Share - Regular	22	N/A
Late Summer Share - Small	20	N/A
Late Summer Share - Regular	30	N/A
Pre-Pack (per share segment)	3	3

CSA workshares commit to a minimum number of hours in exchange for a CSA share. We welcome and love when workshares are able to continue volunteering beyond the minimum hours until their CSA share segment is over. We appreciate our Workshares! We have recently

adjusted the required hours to enable more people access to a Workshare opportunity and to CSA vegetable shares. Shifts begin in May and all hours must be completed before the Thanksgiving weekend. CSA workshares must fulfill 3 shifts before receiving their first CSA pick-up. The first pick-up is usually the third week in June. CSA workshares must sign a contract but can choose to work one shift to determine whether or not they enjoy the position before signing the contract.

CSA Workshare Shifts:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday
- 8am-12:30pm or 1:30-5pm
- Option of 6am start in summer months

Those completing a CSA workshare for a Fall CSA must start their shifts at the beginning of October. The Fall CSA typically shifts to every other week to accommodate the bi-weekly CSA pick-ups. We will let you know about extra harvesting opportunities where extra hands are appreciated to bring in the storage crops.

Option B: Community Garden Workshare

Community garden workshares exchange approximately 30 hours of work for one garden plot up to 1,000 square feet. The number of positions is limited.

Community garden workshares take on specific roles.

- *Weed Surveyors*: survey garden plots for weeds on a weekly basis throughout the season
- *Water Line crew*: set up waterlines, provide contact information so that fellow gardeners can contact you about leaky water lines on an on-call basis, dismantle waterlines
- *Garden lay-out & clean-up crew lead*: seasoned gardeners who lead the set-up of the gardens in the spring and the dismantling of the gardens in the fall

Option C: Semi-Skilled Services Workshare (Self-directed)

To help with the regular services of Ignatius Farm, workshare opportunities may arise for semi-skilled services. These include data entry, cleaning, facilitating kids' activities, etc.

Option D: Skilled Barter Workshare

As special projects arise, skilled barter work shares may become available. These shares are geared toward a higher skill set of work. Projects might include building, mechanics, administration & other skilled work. Please inquire for details.

Lunch

CSA workshares are welcome to join the farm team for lunch if they bring their own lunch.