

May 10, 2016



Beaver Creek CSA

your local food connection!

BEAVER CREEK GARDENS
beavercreekgardens.org

20506 Beaverton Rd • Poplar Grove, IL 61065 • 815-494-1251 • CDoetch53@gmail.com

Become a Member

We are not completely sold out yet. If you know



of anyone still looking to buy a CSA membership, have them call me at 815-494-1251 or email me: cdoetch53@gmail.com. We are currently priced from \$240 to \$595 for individual to full box memberships. Our box sizes are 3/4 or 1/2 bushel for 10 or 20 week subscriptions.

Garden and Weather Report

Hello from the Gardens!

Welcome to May, the month that everything in the garden will grow by leaps and bounds, whatever that means! The picture in the center of this page is of the last frost tolerant plants that were hardened off and thanks to Debbie and Dale Bruesewitz, planted on Mother's Day. The only plants we have that are not in the ground yet are the tomatoes, egg plant and peppers. I will hold onto these for another 10 days as there is always a possibility of a late frost.

The average frost date for our area is today, but I have certainly seen frosts and even a freeze as late as May 20th, so I will not take a chance with our beloved tomatoes, peppers and egg plants.

The bottom box is a reminder that we have our Spring Fling this weekend. We will have asparagus, rhubarb, honey, my famous red sauce, with plants for sale: tomatoes, peppers, cilantro, chard, kale, eggplant, rosemary, and basil. Make sure you stop by on Saturday. The asparagus will be on first come first served and I will probably put a limit

on the amount so that everyone can get at least a pound of it that comes by.



We are getting close to our sell out of the CSA memberships, but I still can add a few people on so if you know of anyone that has

expressed an interest, make sure they get in touch with me this next week.

I will be working on the A/B lists so that if you purchased a box every other week, you will know which weeks you will have boxes. I will get this done after the Spring Fling and send it out to everyone the week of May 23rd.

I had hoped to start up a little early this year, but unless we hit a few weeks of really warm weather, we won't make that week of June 6th - so watch this space for more information on the start up date. I may be able to tell more in two weeks when I send out the A/B Lists for all of you.

• Continued on page 2

Spring Fling - May 14th From 9 to 1:00 p.m.

Come Saturday the 14th
We will have asparagus available and extra plants for sale!



Garden and Weather Report

continued from page 1

Pictured below are the plants hardening off for the Spring Fling on a completely cloudless day. This year hasn't been easy for that process. It seems as though in April and early May, we either had very cold cloudy days or these days of brilliant sunshine. The plant leaves are so sensitive when they come out of the protection of the greenhouse, that they require some clouds to protect them from sunburn - imagine that! Just like our skin, they cannot take sun rays with no break from shade which the clouds provide for them. I did sunburn a few flats. They will grow out of it, but it doesn't look pretty when that happens.

I typically love days like today - a little rain with cloudy skies to bring them out into their new environment gently. We did receive a generous amount of water last night which was perfect for the nine beds that were planted on Sunday. There is nothing better for the plants than Mother Nature's rain. Ron says it is because the rain provides additional nitrogen from the air that watering through hoses simply does not provide. There must be something to that because I am sure you have noticed how green the grass is after a rain. And if you are the person mowing it, how fast it grows after that rain!

The picture on the right is our garlic. We planted 600 head on each bed and have 3 beds - 1800 garlic plants. They are up and growing like crazy. It won't be long before we have the garlic scapes for grilling - yum! There is a little grass in the valleys between the rows that Ron has since cultivated out - everything looks wonderful in our northeast quarter where all the spring plants went in. We have been on top of the weeding so far and hope to keep that going throughout the season. We always plan to do that, but sometimes that Mother Nature gets in the way with too much rain, like last year in June (over 8 inches) and we were never able to catch completely up after that. It will impact the harvest of things like garlic, onions and leeks. We are about 30 days away and counting!

This Months Photo's

