

# 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

## WALTHAM FIELDS COMMUNITY FARM

*Waltham Fields Community Farm (WFCF) is the business name of Community Farms Outreach, a non-profit 501c3 organization, whose Tax Exempt ID # is 04-3261186*



**MISSION:** Waltham Fields Community Farm promotes local agriculture and food access through our farming operations and educational programs, using practices that are socially, ecologically, and economically sustainable. We encourage healthy relationships between people, their food supply, and the land from which it grows.

Dear Friends,

Waltham Fields Community Farm is 15 years in and going strong because of you! With your support in 2010, we hit our goals for food distribution, offered year-round public education programs for all ages, and trained two future farmers. There was also some work behind the scenes, re-examining what is most important and holding a series of strategic planning discussions.

One result of these discussions was the redrafting of our mission statement, which was approved by WFCF members at our Annual Meeting & Harvest Potluck on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Waltham Fields was founded on a deep commitment to providing fresh, organically-grown produce to the public with specific attention to those most in need. Our mission statement now more clearly reflects these twin goals of supporting local agriculture and providing food access to all. Here at the farm we take these goals to heart, and consciously think about how the work we do can best fulfill this mission, through direct food distribution as well as educational programming. In so many ways your involvement is vital to our mission; we look forward to many more years together!

Sincerely,

Claire Kozower, Executive Director



## 2010 HIGHLIGHTS

- Distributed over \$45,000 worth of vegetables to individuals and families in need through hunger relief and food access programs
- Doubled the number of youth served through our education programs from over 200 to over 400
- Created the Waltham Fields Container Garden, demonstrating growing crops in pots
- Initiated a food waste composting partnership with Bentley University and expanded our leaf composting partnership with the City of Waltham
- Hosted Waltham Farm Day, a free event with over 200 community members in attendance

### Board of Directors

2010

President:

Rebecca Nesson

Vice President:

Jay Rudolph

Secretary:

Nathan Weston

Treasurer:

Judy Fallows

Alicia Harvie

Adam Kessler

Griffin Lamb

Meryl LaTronica

Jay Luker

Sophia Mansori

Margaret Post

Sam Robinson

Janet Yeracaris

Chris Yoder

## FINANCIAL STATUS

We began and ended 2010 in good financial standing, making annual contributions to our reserve accounts for capital purchases, employee leave, and emergencies. Our net surplus was \$21,061.

We are pleased to continue working with accountant John M. Monticone, CPA, of Medford, MA, who completed a financial review of 2009 in accordance with nonprofit accounting regulations. A copy of this review is available from our office upon request. The 2010 review will be available in the summer of 2011.

### Financial Statement for FY10

#### Revenue

Agricultural income	\$249,028
Grants and contributions	184,305
Membership	15,003
Special events & merchandise	34,293
Service/program fees	10,576
Interest	<u>9</u>
Total revenue:	493,214

#### Operating Expenses

Wages and benefits	\$296,794
Agricultural expenses (non-salary)	71,440
Organizational infrastructure	70,990
Facilities, fees & insurance	<u>32,929</u>
Total expenses:	472,153

## FARM HARVESTS



### FARM SALES HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 95% of our CSA shareholders from 2009 returned in 2010.
- In addition to producing vegetable seedlings for sale to the GROW (Green Rows of Waltham) community gardens, we held two well-attended seedling sales for the general public.
- We provided a steady supply of vegetables to Kitchen on Common Restaurant in Belmont, from greens in early spring to stored roots and cabbage-family crops throughout December and into the new year. It is exciting to work with chef/owner Joh Kokubo to offer local food on his menu year-round!

	Weight (pounds)	Retail value (dollars)	Income earned (dollars)
<b>TOTAL PRODUCE HARVESTED</b>	149,882	\$293,293  (\$27,283 per acre on 10.75 acres)	\$230,297*
<b><u>Breakdown:</u></b>			
<b>Food Access Programs</b>	25,782	\$45,444	\$3,998**
<b>350 Summer CSA Shares (\$575/share)</b>	106,050 (303 lbs. per share)	\$217,700 (\$622 per share)	\$201,250
Retail value includes \$52 per share of winter squash and potatoes from Picadilly Farm, and \$14 per share worth of corn from Verrill Farm			
<b>150 Winter CSA Shares (\$150/share)</b>	15,603 (104 lbs. per share)	\$27,600 (\$184 per share)	\$22,500
Retail value includes \$45 per share of winter squash and potatoes from Picadilly Farm			
<b>Retail/Wholesale/ Restaurant</b>	2,447	\$2,549	\$2,549

\*Our own harvests account for the majority of our agricultural revenue. Other agricultural revenue sources include seedling sales and a la carte sales of farm products from other local farms such as apples and cheese.

\*\*Most of the value of produce distributed through our food access programs is fundraised for and provided for free, but a small amount of income is made by offering produce at subsidized prices through our farm-to-school sales, ½ price CSA shares, and Outreach Market, where low-income customers that don't have vouchers can pay \$5 to fill a grocery bag.



## FOOD ACCESS

With a total value of \$46,688, we exceeded our overall goal of distributing \$40,000 worth of produce to area residents in need through our various food access channels.

**Bulk Donations:** Weekly donations of freshly picked produce were made to Food for Free and the Waltham Salvation Army. In addition, The Greater Boston Food Bank accepted several thousands of pounds of vegetables through their 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Food Bank program; their ability to pick up entire pallets of produce is especially appreciated during end-of-season harvests.

**Waltham Fields Outreach Market:** 594 bags of produce were distributed through our special Outreach Market for low income individuals/families. Each week, 58% of market clients paid \$5 for their bag and 42% redeemed our free vouchers. Average bag value was \$20. Voucher distribution increased by 44%, with a total of eight agencies distributing our vouchers to enable their clientele to fill bags with their choice of produce for free. Partner agencies included WATCH CDC, Joseph Smith Community Health Center, Waltham Family School, Grandma’s Pantry at the Christ Episcopal Church, Thom Charles River Early Intervention of Thom Child & Family Services, REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, HeadStart and The Family Table program at Jewish Family & Children’s Service (JF&CS). JF&CS also partnered with us to provide a Registered Dietician to do four cooking/recipe sampling demonstrations throughout the Market season.

**Food for All ½ Price CSA Shares:** Four low-income households participated in our CSA program at a subsidized rate in 2010.

**Farm-to-School and Healthy Waltham Nutrition Education Initiatives:** Partnerships with the Waltham Public Schools Food Service Dept. and Healthy Waltham continued with produce from our farm supplying the Vegetable of the Month in school meals from September through November, as well as supplying after school and summer cooking/nutrition education programs, demonstrations and tastings at public events, and meals for the Waltham Family School and several other low-income community groups.

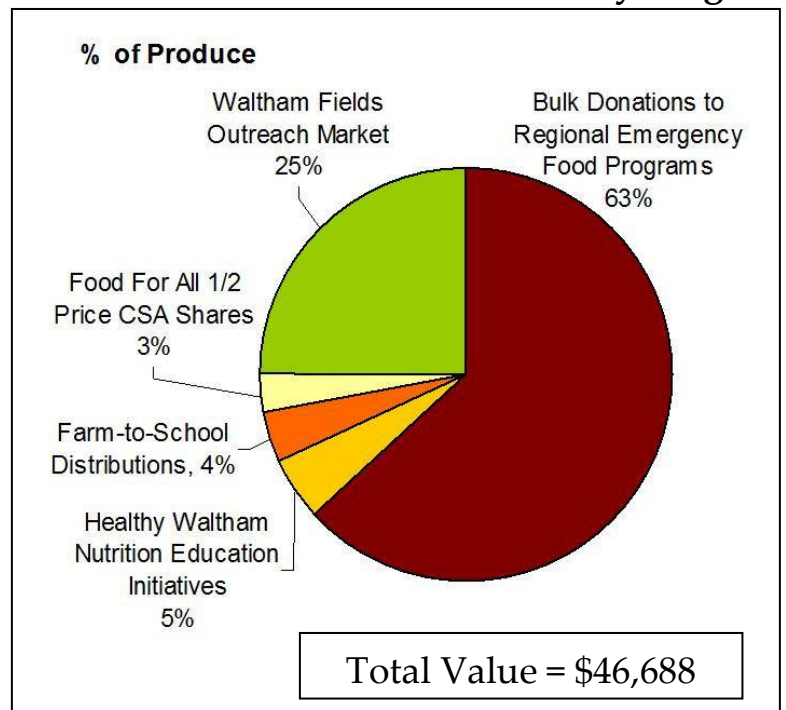


Above: 2,000 lbs. of bell peppers make their way from the fall fields to The Greater Boston Food Bank.

Below: Participants at the Outreach Market choose their vegetables. A highlight of the season was the kale cooking demonstration which led to a child loving the recipe so much she got in line and asked our farmer, “Which greens are the ones I just tasted?”



### Food Access Produce Distribution by Program



## EDUCATION & OUTREACH

**Learning Garden Programs & Workshops:** We expanded our offerings by providing practical skills workshops for adults and teens (organic gardening, compost bin building, pickling and more), farm visit opportunities for school/community groups, and more program opportunities for preschoolers through sixth graders in spring, summer, and fall. We reached a total of 419 children and 73 adults: more than double last year's numbers! We also continued improvement of the Learning Garden space. With the help of many volunteers we defined the garden beds with mulched pathways, painted benches and tables, set up the small greenhouse nearby for youth use, and completed our solar electric system for farm-to-table activities.



*"Gina loved this hands-on gardening program and loves showing off the harvest, snack and fun things she has learned each day!... I see a greater sense of self and independence in Gina this summer."*

–Diane, mother of Gina (age 9)

*"Of course we have to weed, Mommy!" she loves that she is caring for plants and the food that comes from it. "Everything we eat is so fresh!" she never commented on the food at home or how fresh anything is. She has a heightened awareness, which is awesome!"*

–Maryanne, mother of Maggie (age 8)

Gianna & Gina show off their Learning Garden harvest.

**Service Learning:** Several improvements were made to our volunteer program, with special emphasis on the creation of a volunteer check in/check out kiosk, serving as both a gathering spot for drop-in volunteers as well as an information center where volunteers track their hours and tasks and learn about upcoming events on the farm. Over 700 individuals and 43 groups came out to volunteer this year in the fields, the office, or at one of our numerous public events and programs. These volunteers worked a total of just under 3,000 hours and we are thankful for their service! Our 2010 Volunteer Recognition Award went to Dan Melnechuk who volunteers his time to manage our web and email servers and answer our technical questions.

**Farmer Training:** We had two Assistant Growers in our Farmer Training program, Amy Cook as a first-year trainee and Dan Roberts staying with us for second-year opportunities. Both Amy and Dan showed a strong commitment to the organization's overall mission and worked diligently to understand all aspects of our farm operation, with Dan stepping up to oversee our restaurant sales and Outreach Market. Also in 2010, we designed and began implementation of a long-term evaluation of our Farmer Training program to assess our success with providing future farmers the resources they need to stay in farming and build successful farming operations, and to inform our own future program improvements.



Field Managers Erinn Roberts & Andy Scherer flanked by 2010 Farmer Trainees.

*"It is one of the most influential and positive influences on me as a farmer and one of the farm work experiences I think about and talk about the most. WFCF's Farm Manager, Amanda, has continued to be such an amazing resource and mentor to both Nate and I, and again we have borrowed so much of our own farm vision from what we learned at Waltham it is hard to underestimate. I also really appreciate that it felt that we were paid relatively fairly for our work."*

- Jen Smith, co-manager Crimson & Clover Farm (2006 farmer trainee)

**Public Programs:** A highlight of the season continues to be our Waltham Farm Day event, bringing several hundred community members and partnering organizations to the farm for a free afternoon of hands-on activities celebrating farming in Waltham and healthful living. We also held a Spring Festival/Wild Foraging Walk with Russ Cohen and Night Sky Viewing events with Astronomer Andrew West, and participated in over ten off-farm events throughout the Greater Boston area.

## THANKS TO OUR 2010 DONORS

The food access and education programs of Waltham Fields Community Farm are made possible through both financial and in-kind donations from hundreds of individuals, businesses, community organizations and foundations.

**We are grateful to everyone who contributed to our work in 2010 through donations and participation in our fundraising events, including** Sprout (our annual silent auction and celebration), a Greens Breakfast on the Farm and REAP Dinner with Kitchen on Common (Raising funds for Education and Access Programs), the Elephant Walk Benefit Restaurant program in October, Whole Foods 5% Day, a benefit night at Flatbread Pizza, and two house parties hosted by Board members.



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## Local Business Heroes

AlphaGraphics, Waltham - Earth, Inc. - Fresh Pond Capital/Reynders, McVeigh Capital Management - Gordon's Fine Wines and Liquors - Gravestar, Inc. - O'Connell & Rudolph, LLC - Pioneer Investments - Stanton Insurance Agency - Sunshine Advantage, LLC - The Elephant Walk, Waltham - Watertown Savings Bank - Wainwright Bank & Trust Company, Watertown Sqr. - Whole Foods Market, Newtonville & Fresh Pond

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## Additional Business & Community Support

15 Walnut Restaurant - A Friendly Inn at Harvard - AMC Paddling Committee - American Repertory Theatre - Ames Hotel - Aquitaine Bis - Arbella Insurance Group - Aroa Fine Chocolate - Atwood's Tavern - Back Pages Books - Berklee College of Music - Blue Cloud Gallery - Blue Ginger - Bob Slate Stationer - Bookcase Factory Outlet - Brine's Sporting Goods - Cantata Singers - Central Path Acupuncture - Cambridge Friends School - Center Street Café - Chapel Hill Chauncey Hall - Charles River Chiropractic - Chestnut Farms - Christopher's Restaurant - Cisco - Clear the Clutter - Community Rowing, Inc. - Craigie On Main - Cuisine en Locale - Dali - Doubletree Guest Suites - Eli Lilly - Farm Aid - Fedco Seeds - FEI Theaters - Fiduciary Trust Company - Finale's Desserterie and Bakery - Flora - Flying Moose Lodge - Formaggio Kitchen - Gardener's Supply/Dutch Gardens - Girls Angle, Inc. - Greenward - Grezzo - Harpoon Brewery - Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation - Healing Arts of Belmont - Highland Kitchen - Hoblitzelle-Waitsfield LLC - Hostelling International USA - Hungry Nomad Maps - Jewish Charities of Choice, Inc. - Johnny D's Restaurant and Music Club - Kitchen on Common - Kitch in Sync - Kundalini Now - Larz Anderson Auto Museum - LeBlanc Mechanical - Legal Sea Foods - Lesley Ellis School - Let's Go Green.com - Lizzy's Ice Cream - MSCI c/o Institutional Shareholder Services - Masao's Kitchen - MetLife Insurance - Microsoft Matching Gifts Program - Mind's Eye Yarns - Never Too Late Basketball - New England Wild Flower Society - New Repertory Theatre - Northeast Fiber Arts Center - Novell, Inc. - Old Sturbridge Village - Padula Brothers, Inc - Pansy Maiden Bags - Pet's Pies - Picco Restaurant - Pilar Botana Design - Progressive Asset Management - Prospect Hill Forge - Rayzor Pottery - Real Pickles - Red Lion Inn - Redbones - Rotary Club of Waltham, Inc. - Sherborn Inn - Sherman Market and Café - Silver Clay Gifts - Small Planet Media - Solea - Spaces Design Studios - Stone Hearth Pizza Co. - Stone Meadow Golf - Stroller Fit - T.W. Food - Taza Chocolate - Temple Shalom of Newton - The Charles Hotel - The Druid - The Fireplace - The Friendly Toast - The Herb Lyceum - The Magnolia Wine Company - The Ritz-Carlton - The Waldorf School of Lexington - Tomasso Trattoria - Tower Hill Botanic Garden - Turtle Creek Winery - Upstairs on the Square - Valora Charters - Vanguarden CSA - Waltham Athletic Club - Watch City Brewery Company - West Side Lounge - Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery - Wheelworks - When Pigs Fly Bakery - Zing Pizza - Zocalo Cocina Mexicana

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## Foundation & Corporate Grant Support

Adobe Foundation - CHNA18 - Cambridge Community Foundation - Clipper Ship Foundation - Draper Laboratory - Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation - Foundation M - Frances R. Dewing Foundation - Genzyme Corporation - Green Leaf Foundation - Hands On Science Outreach - Hope Foundation - Project Bread - Millipore - Orville W. Forté Charitable Foundation, Inc. - Shaw's Supermarkets - The Frederick E. Weber Charities Corporation - The English Family Fund of the Foundation for MetroWest - The Fullen-Smith Foundation - The Klarman Family Foundation - Waltham Community Foundation

## Individual Support above \$25 Organizational Membership

We had 863 households enrolled as WFCF members in 2010. This includes all 475 households involved in our CSA program as well as 388 households lending their charitable support. In addition to strong membership support, we are proud to acknowledge the following individuals donors giving above the membership level through cash and in-kind contributions.

Sheela Agarwal - Robert Altshuler - Gretta Anderson and Paul Bay - Elizabeth and James Apgar - Lisa Arrowood and Philip O'Neill - Lynda Banzi-Sponholtz and Todd Sponholtz - Robin Barber - Brad Barber - Phoebe Barnes - Naomi and Yaneer Bar-Yam - Molly and Peter Baskette - Mike and MaryLou Beermann - Audrey Benevento - Laura Bethard and Jack Greene - Jericho Bicknell - Joan and Jim Bicknell - Judy and Jerry Blaine - Katherine Boyce - Margaret Bradley - Lucinda Brandt - Ronda Brenner and Robert Goldstein - Jessica Brown and Rob Berridge - Janet Bunbury - Michael and Mary Ann Buras - Eliza and Doug Burden - Catherine Cabrera and Joel Patterson - Wendy Cadge and Deborah Elliott - Faith Calhoun - Christina Carpino - Jeannie and Jeromy Carriere - Elisabeth Carter - Carrie Cashmore - Paul Martenis and Susan Cassidy - Don and Mary Cather - Scott and Ashley Cavanaugh - Julie Chamberlin - Marvin and Mary Chaney - Holly Chin - Mindy Chin - Alex and Rosabelli Coelho-Keyssar - Gary and Janet Cohen - Russ Cohen - Amy Cook - David and Beth Cook - Meg Coward and Sarah Schwartz Sax - Lenore Cowen and William Bogstad - Ellie and Walter Creedon - Claudia and Tom Cromer - Anndy Dannenberg and Glenn Rosen - Susan Danseyar - Noah Dauber - Angela Davis - Amanda Dean - Robert DeBenedictis - Kathy and Richard Diamond - Reva Dolobowsky and Jeff Howe - Brett and Priscilla Donham - Tara and Abigail Donner - Meaghan Donovan - Aaron and Arlenin Dushku - Geoff Dutton - Marcia Dworkind and Charles Merzbacher - Carroll Eastman and David Dorfman - Amy Eastwood - Carrie Endries - Sarah Epps - Ellen Epstein and Ian Brownell - Phyllis Ewen - Judy Fallows - Kate Farb-Johnson - Matt and Marilyn Feinberg - Tania Fersenheim - Sara Folta and Vin Maganzini - Christine Foot and David Granger - Maureen and Bill Fowler - Marian Friedman - Jocelyn Gardner - John Garrity - John Gawoski - Katherine and Ted Gekas - Sabine Gerbatsch - William and Jessica Gerke - Elizabeth and John Gilmore - Donald and Allison Girod - Meghan Giuliano - Kathleen Knoble and Doug Goldman - Carol Goranson - Alex Green and Kathleen Dowcett - Betsey Greenman - Megan and Steven Grskovic - Deb Guttormsen - Robert and Elizabeth Hagopian - Terese Hammerle - Melissa and Frank Hanenberger - Christopher and Susan Harris - Lydia and Rob Harris - Alicia Harvie - David Hatch - Kerry Hawkins - Andrew Hawley - Sue Hickey - Kerri Hoffman - Laurie Hoffmann - Ruth Hopkinson - Sara Irwin and Noah Evans - Dr. Morton Isaacson and Erica Zissman - Laura and Geoff Jarbeau - Diab Jerius and Sherry Winkelman - Brita Jessen - Julie Johnson McVeigh - Kate Johnson - Carolyn Jordan and Harry Fair - Edward Kahn - Anwar and Cate Kashem - Leo Keightley and Martha Creedon - Robert Kelliher - Timothy Kennedy - Adam and Kate Kessler - Theodore and Anna Kessler - Chris Klein and Kristin Newton - Kerri Klugman - Sarah Kielsmeier-Jones - Kathleen Knoble and Doug Goldman - Carol Koskelowski and Peter Brenton - Max Kozower and Jane Guttenberg - Dr. and Mrs. Kozower - Benjamin Kozower and Nikki Fedoravicius - Claire Kozower and Charlie Knoble - Dee and David Kricker - Joan Krizack and Andre Mayer - Susan Kuhr - Griffin and David Lamb - Michael Langen - Vickie Langohr - Sheila and Jason Lawrence - Rebekah Lea - Randy and Tiffany LeBlanc - Christie Lee - Marina and Kenneth Lehn - Henry Leitner and Catalina Laserna - Rebecca Leong and Mark Drews - Xuemei Li and Peter Cuddihy - Donna Libes - Henrietta Light - Christine Lojko - Christine Lojko - Jay Luker and Jennifer Zacharis - Matt and Kim MacDonald - Gary Madison and Marty Ahrens - Ricardo Maldonado - Sophia Mansori - Alison and Jason Marshall - Elisabeth and James Mathieu - Brenda Mathieu and Kesel Wilson - Joan Krizack and Andre Mayer - Marion and Abraham Menzin - Rachel and Jay Mepani - Dinan Messiqua - Charlotte and James Milan - Andrew Mirsky - John Monticone, CPA - Patricia Moran and Mark Lang - Lindsay Murphy - Julie Murrell - Jennifer and Steve Nahn - Gretchen Neeley and Erica Dorenkamp - Ruth Nelson - Lauren Nelson - Fern and Charles Nesson - Rebecca Nesson and Wayne Marshall - Brenda and Patrick Netreba - Helene Newberg and Emily Farmer - Melissa Nolte and Eric Kierce - Jean and Jeff Nugent - Rick Oches - Dorothy and Shaun O'Connell - Saskia Oosting - Lou and Jay Paap - Monica Pacheco-Tougas and David Tougas - Heidi Patel - David Petty - Susan Phinney - Joan Pic - Shannon Planck and Laura Wood - Oakes Plimpton and Pat Magee - Olofron Plume - Debra Poaster and Brent Whelan - Jeannette Post - Margaret Post - Claire Reardon - John Reinhardt - Marla Rhodes - Ana Rivera and George Snell - Blake Roberts and James Crall - Sam and Linda Robinson - Jennifer Rosen - Jordan and Sally Rosenthal - Barbara G Rothstein - Tim and Amy Rowe - Jay and Kathleen Rudolph - Anastacia and Jorge Salcedo - Sandra Sattler - Andy Scherer - Susan and Stephen Schmidt - Ari Schoenholtz - Susan Schonhoff-Sloan and Kevin Sloan - Jonathan Schwartz and Marcy Fischer - Erica Schwarz - Cynthia Scott - Kristen Shapiro - Andrea Shapiro - David Sharpe and Ann Abrons - David Siegenberg - Mark Simmons and Laurie Rothstein - Jesse Simmons - Vivienne Simon - Ellie Smerlas - Nancy and Jim Smith - Nancy Sokol - Cate Solomon - Katherine Stover - Heidi Strauss - Victoria Thatcher - Stephanie and Paul Thurrott - Mary and James Tracy - Sarah Trilling and Lou Fiscarelli - Robert Truslow - Cristina and Andrew Ullmann - Shawn Van Every - Donna and Bill VanderClock - Elizabeth Vernaglia - Debbie and Moritz Von Rechenberg - Jeff VonWald and Julie Rossate - James Walker - Leland and Linda Walter - Bruce and Toby Ward - Peter Warren - Helen Webb and Chris Murphy - Emilie Webster - Bruce Wenning - Mary Werowinski and Bruce Tsiknas - Nathan and Joanna Weston - David and Vicki Whalen - George White and Lynn Fernandes-White - Beth Wilkinson - Sherry Winkelman - David Wittenberg and Cynthia Kagno - Eric Wlodyka - Nick Wyneken - Janet and Anthony Yeracaris - Isabel Yoder - Glenda Yoder - Chris Yoder - and 11 Anonymous Donors



# *Our Farm is Your Farm*

## **Come Visit Us!**

Opportunities abound for people of all ages and income levels to get involved with our programs.

**V**olunteer in our fields or with special projects – we have individual drop-in hours for all ages and available dates for groups ages high school and up.

**S**chedule a Farm Visit for your school and/or community group - for those in pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Activities include farm explorations, learning games and farm-to-table fresh snack preparation.

**T**ake a stroll around the farm. Our main farm site is located on leased land owned by the University of Massachusetts. You are welcome to walk around the farm anytime during daylight hours to enjoy open space, and observe wildlife and the rhythms of the agricultural season. Please stay on the farm roads and keep pets on leash.



## **2011 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS - Mark Your Calendars...**

**Empty Bowls Dinner:** Sat., Sept. 10 (rain date 9/11)

**Waltham Farm Day:** Sat., Sept. 24 (rain or shine), 2-5pm

**Harvest Potluck/Annual Meeting:** Sat., Nov. 5, 5:30-7:30pm

*Please check our website for a full listing of our programs, events and workshops*

## **Waltham Fields Community Farm**

240 Beaver St. Waltham, MA 02452

(781) 899-2403 [www.communityfarms.org](http://www.communityfarms.org)

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK  
CHECK OUT OUR BLOG!**

