OUR MISSION:
We promote 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,

In 2011, the farm was alive as I’ve never seen it before. We grew more produce than ever, distributed more vegetables than ever ($50,000 worth!) for food assistance efforts, and interacted with more people than ever! Our pickling workshop focused on fermentation with living microorganisms, and we were visited by several wild animals - including coyotes hungry for our watermelons and a lone blue heron hungry for small critters. At dawn and dusk, for several weeks in the fall, the heron could be seen hunting among the mature swiss chard planting, its lanky steel grey body contrasting beautifully against the multi-colored stems of the crop, forcing us to slow down and observe the food chain and nature’s cycles. The heron’s presence reminds us of the role this farm has to play in nurturing biodiversity and creating open space, as well as its importance in providing sustenance for the soul as well as for the body.

The reflective moments in the fields are symbolic of the organization as whole in 2011, with the staff and board engaged in a series of discussions about who we are and future directions. We identified major topic areas and committed ourselves to maintaining trimmed-down agendas that gave enough time for us to have lengthy, focused conversations, with almost perfect attendance from board members throughout the year. This led to the creation and approval of a Strategic Plan for 2012-2015 of which we are all very proud (available on our website); it provides a blueprint for activities to come and we look forward to having your help in carrying it out.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement!

Sincerely,

Claire Kozower, Executive Director
2011 HIGHLIGHTS

- Approved a new 3-year Strategic Plan for the organization, emphasizing programming that brings people to the farm as much as possible and a heightened focus on food access efforts.

- Distributed over $50,000 worth of vegetables to individuals and families in need through our hunger relief/food access programs.

- Reached over 2,000 youth and adults through our Learning Garden education programs, volunteer opportunities, and public events.

- Started construction on a new 20’x40’ barn on the UMass property where we are based, to be used for storage and vegetable distribution.

- Created a self-guided tour of the farm, allowing visitors to learn about our work and get the lay of the land.

- Held the 3rd annual Waltham Farm Day, a free event with over 300 community members in attendance.

FINANCIAL STATUS

We began and ended 2011 in good financial standing, making annual contributions to our reserve accounts for capital purchases, employee leave, and emergencies. Our net operating surplus was $36,586.

We are pleased to continue working with accountant John M. Monticone, CPA, of Medford, MA, who completed a financial review of 2010 in accordance with nonprofit accounting regulations. A copy of this review is available from our office upon request. In 2011, with our revenue up over $500,000 for the first time in our history, we are having our first audited review. Reports will be available in the fall of 2012.

Financial Statement for FY11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Operating Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural income</td>
<td>Wages and benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$289,317</td>
<td>Agricultural expenses (non-salary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and contributions</td>
<td>Organizational infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>226,518</td>
<td>Facilities, fees &amp; insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual fundraiser - Sprout</td>
<td>Total expenses:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37,957</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18,625</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service/program fees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,552</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,413</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>587,390</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FARM HARVESTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Produce Harvested</th>
<th>Produce for Food Access Programs</th>
<th>Food Access as Percent of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight (lbs.)</td>
<td>151,858 lbs.</td>
<td>28,730 lbs.</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Value</td>
<td>$299,149</td>
<td>$50,749</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2011 Total Farm Income: $289,317
CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Revenue = $270,330*
Restaurant/Retail Produce Sales = $3,751
Seedling Sale Revenue = $10,825
Income from Food Access Sales = $4,411**

*Our own harvests account for the large majority of our agricultural revenue, with 20% of our CSA revenue obtained through share partnerships and a la carte sales of local farm products.

**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/bag with cash or SNAP/EBT.

Average Value per Acre: $27,828 on 10.25 acres

CSA Program - Community Supported Agriculture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number &amp; Type of Shares</th>
<th>Share Price</th>
<th>Ave. Retail Value Provided per Share</th>
<th>Ave. Pounds Provided per Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>475* Summer Shares – 20 wks.</td>
<td>$575</td>
<td>$580**</td>
<td>286 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155 Winter Shares – Nov/Dec</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$185</td>
<td>111 lbs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CSA Farm Partnerships:

* Picadilly Farm provides produce for 100 of our summer shares, excepting pick-your-own crops.
** Retail Value above includes $44 per share of winter squash and potatoes grown by Picadilly Farm, and $12 per share of corn from Verrill Farm and Brigham Farm.

Farm Sales Highlights

- We piloted a new partnership with our close friends and longtime farm partner, Picadilly Farm in New Hampshire, to grow all the produce (except pick-your-own crops) for 100 CSA shares, allowing us to increase the total shares offered from 350 in 2010 to 475 in 2011. The shares went quickly and we are so pleased to be providing more area residents with fresh produce and the opportunity to regularly experience a local farm through this joint effort.

- We met an ambitious goal of $10,000 in seedling sales, and are thrilled our sales have been so positively received in the community! We offer organically grown seedlings through several on-farm public sales and a pre-order for gardeners at the GROW (Green Rows of Waltham) community gardens, located next to our farm fields.
FOOD ACCESS

Despite a very challenging growing season, we met our largest-ever goal of distributing $50,000 worth of produce to area residents in need through our food access channels. And for the first time, direct sales to low-income people at our Outreach Market and through our half-price share program became more than 50% of our Food Access total.

**Bulk Donations:** Weekly donations were made to Food for Free, our longtime partner agency. The Greater Boston Food Bank and Boston Area Gleaners also helped distribute WFCF produce throughout the season.

**Waltham Fields Outreach Market:** The Outreach Market for low income individuals/families grew tremendously in its fourth year of operation. 973 bags of produce were distributed in 2011, a 61% increase from 2010. Overall, 55% of market clients paid $5 for their bag (which they fill themselves with their choice of vegetables), 43% redeemed free vouchers they received through one of our partner organizations, and 2% used their SNAP benefits. SNAP acceptance was new to us this year, and something we’d be working to make happen for some time; overall, redemption with SNAP was low, but customers who did make use of it, walked away with more than five times the value of the $5 swiped from their card. The average bag value was $27, with a total of $26,674 worth of produce distributed through the Market on the whole. Jewish Family & Children’s Service (JF&CS) and Healthy Waltham continued to work with us to have a Registered Dietician and a chef coordinate recipe sampling/cooking demos using seasonal produce throughout the Market season.

**Food for All ½ Price CSA Shares:** Ten low-income households participated in our CSA program at a subsidized rate in 2011, more than doubling the number of participants from 2010. This program was supported by the purchase of Food for All shares by full-paying CSA shareholders.

**Farm-to-School and Healthy Waltham Nutrition Education Initiatives:** Collaborations with the Waltham Public Schools Food Service Department 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 afterschool and summer cooking/nutrition education programs with donations for demonstrations at public events, and special meals for the Waltham Family School and other low-income community groups.

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**Food Access Produce Distribution by Program**

Our half-price subsidized shares for low-income individuals and families inspire healthful eating!

“Having this share made a difference to my life and will help impact the food choices that I make for years to come.” K. Rafter

![Kristen Pufahl from JF&CS and Chef Leslie Glynn from Healthy Waltham prepare for a fresh greens food demo at the Outreach Market](image)
EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Learning Garden Programs & Workshops: In 2011, we maintained strong partnerships with the Waltham Recreation Department and Cambridge Adventure Day Camp, and grew our own scholarship fund, ensuring the ability to accommodate all participants at affordable rates. In total, our Learning Garden programs reached 490 children and 95 adults with after-school and summer programs, Farm Visits for school and community groups, practical skills workshops for adults (pickling, jam-making, felting, organic gardening), and Little Sprouts Family Programs for preschoolers with their caregivers. Food preparation remains a key part of all of our youth programs and the solar electric system was in full operation this season, helping us whip up fresh garden snacks, including hummus, salsa, smoothies, stir fries and more!

“It was awesome. I loved being in the rain, digging for potatoes and having soooo much super awesome fun…I learned that being a farmer is really really hard work and you have to work in the rain, but I’d probably do it anyway.” - Waltham Rec. participant, age 6

“My children loved helping washing and preparing the snack and especially love eating healthy beans now because of their experience helping to prepare them at the farm.”
- D. Callahan, Mother of two Little Sprouts

Service Learning: As with our other education programs this year, our volunteer opportunities brought back many regulars (both individual and group) as well as quite a few new faces and organizations making a total of 730 individuals and 42 groups. These volunteers worked 3,039 hours in the fields, the office, or helping out with one of our public programs. Improvements to our volunteer management included implementing an on-line availability calendar and group sign-up form.

Our 2011 Volunteer Recognition Award went to Wendy Singleton (pictured here on the left), who has been a steadfast volunteer for many years, often dedicating her late summer hours to cleaning garlic.

“Great Folks. Great Day. Great Cause. A really rewarding experience. Who would have thought at 60 I would still love playing in the dirt!” - 2011 Volunteer

Farmer Training: Two Assistant Growers participated in our 2011 Farmer Training program, Larisa Jacobson and Lauren Weinberg, both first-year trainees from out of state. Throughout the season, these women got to participate in 11 field walks and more than 5 EMass CRAFT (Eastern Massachusetts Collaborative Regional Alliance for Farmer Training) farm visits, rounding out their on-farm curriculum and on-the-job training.

WFCF hosted a well-attended EMass CRAFT visit on organic pest control, and sprayer safety and calibration in conjunction with University of Massachusetts extension agent Ruth Hazzard.

Public Programs: A stronger emphasis social media marketing combined with a high level of demand for farm-based opportunities helped to make public programs like Stargazing, Insect Exploration, and Wild Foraging a big success. Together with our annual Waltham Farm Day and Harvest Potluck/Annual Meeting these programs brought nearly 500 community members and partnering organizations out to the farm to learn about food and farming, and to enjoy the open space and beauty.
THANKS TO OUR 2011 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 2011 through donations and participation in our fundraising events, including Sprout (our annual silent auction and celebration), Greens Breakfast on the Farm and benefit dinner with Kitchen on Common, Elephant Walk Benefit Restaurant program in October, benefit night at Flatbread Pizza, Empty Bowls Dinner on the farm featuring 100 handmade bowls (pictured at right) by WFCF Field Manager Andy Scherer, and several unique events hosted by board members.

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Local Business Heroes


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Additional Business & Community Support


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Foundation & Corporate Grant Support

Individual Support above $25 Organizational Membership

Our Farm is Your Farm

Come Visit Us!

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

Volunteer 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.

Schedule a Farm Visit for your school and/or community group - for those in pre-K through 8th grade or for family groups. Activities include farm explorations, learning games and farm-to-table fresh snack preparation.

Take 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.

2012 FREE PUBLIC EVENTS - All are welcome...

Waltham Farm Day:
Sat., Sept. 22 (rain or shine), 2-5pm

Harvest Potluck/Annual Meeting:
Thurs., Nov. 8, 5:30-7:30pm

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

Waltham Fields Community Farm
240 Beaver St. Waltham, MA 02452
(781) 899-2403  www.communityfarms.org

FIND US ON FACEBOOK- CHECK OUT OUR BLOG!