



- Free Admission!
- Free Tick Tock Trolley Service 1-4 p.m
- Children's activities
- Farm demonstrations
- Live Music

240 Beaver St
Waltham MA 02452



more info: communityfarms.org

WFCF Farm Friends Newsletter October 2024



We look forward to seeing you at our 14th Annual Farm Day Saturday October 19, 1-4pm

Join us for our annual festival celebrating locally grown food, sustainable agriculture, community, and the land we steward. This outdoor, family-friendly event features hands-on farm activities, educational demonstrations, live music from the High Strung Strummers and River Street Six, agricultural-infused magic show, pick-a-pound carrot patch, farm crafts, kids games, temporary tattoo parlor, friendly hens, and more! The **Tick-Tock Trolley** will make continuous loops between the farm and the Waltham Common Bus Stop - free of charge!

Maps, parking information and more can be found on the [Farm Day Event Page](#).



Join us behind the scenes as a **community volunteer!** Farm Day Volunteers Have So Much Fun [**SIGN UP to be a Community Volunteer**](#)

Join us as Participating Organization Set up a table in the Farm Day Community Stroll, connect with your community, and share information about your organization! [**SIGN UP as a Participating Organization**](#).

Businesses interested in supporting Farm Day should email Marla Rhodes at marla@communityfarms.org to sign up as a **Local Business Hero** and help us keep Farm Day admission free for our community.

Bakers Wanted!

The Great Farm Day Bake Sale supports our mission and operations, and we need YOU to contribute a little sweetness to the day with a batch of your favorite treats... *ready, set, bake!*

[Click here to see all the details and to sign up!](#)



Farm Ingenuity

Farms need water, and there are only so many ways we can source it. First is rain, and the least dependable. Second is municipal water which is extremely costly for a non profit farm. Third is a well. Our request for one was denied by the City of Waltham. And, last are water collection systems.

Thanks to our farm manager, Andy, and engineer and volunteer extraordinaire, Rick Oxner, who envisioned and built a mobile solar water pump which returns vegetable wash water to our greenhouse for irrigation.

Check out this sustainable initiative to reduce water consumption at Farm Day!



Pot Luck & Annual Meeting

Nov 7 | 5:30 - 7:30pm

Girls Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts
Cow Barn Function Hall

We are grateful to our generous neighbors across the street for providing a nearby location to host our annual meeting. Bring a supper dish to share with ingredients listed on an index card. We will provide compostable plates and cutlery. We are looking forward to gathering together!

Pot luck 5:30-6:15 and meeting from 6:15-7:30.

Why do we need a new location? Due to restrictions in the land license agreement with the City of Waltham, we may only use the land until dark. As you may imagine, this has greater implications than the annual meeting. Want to know more?

Ask Us Anything!

To inform our community and address topics YOU want to know more about, we are asking folks to share questions about our operations, programs, resources, partnerships, finances, farmland or license with the City of Waltham. We aim to answer as many as possible at our Annual Meeting in November. Drop your questions on a notecard in the farm stand, or contribute online using [this form](#).

Visit the [Annual Meeting Event Page](#) for full details.



Ride for Food - Go Team WFCF!

Our Ride for Food Team has grown to 18 people strong this year, which is a new record, and an amazing testament to what our community can accomplish when it comes together and decides to take action. **Our initial team goal was to raise \$15,000**, but now we're aiming higher, for \$18,000, so that we can provide even more fresh, life changing vegetables to our community members in need! This Sunday, October 6, many of us will be heading to Dedham to complete our 5k walks or 25 mile bike ride. We can't wait!

Follow our Ride and walk progress on WFCF social media. Donate to our **Team Page** (we'll accept donations through Nov 30).

Ask your employer about matching your donation.

Send **Team Captain Trish** a noncommittal email indicating your interest in joining the 2025 team.



Meet Jackson Rabb

Pictured with teammates Adam and Michaelann

"This fall for my Bar Mitzvah, I organized a group of friends to ride 11 miles from my city to Waltham Fields Community Farm to build birdhouses. Please support WFCF in their mission to feed hungry families! Currently, 1 in 3 families in Eastern Massachusetts are food insecure - that's way too many.

Thanks so much for your support... and please help me to spread the word by sharing this page to any friends you think might be interested in donating!"

-Jackson



Farm Activities Must Finish "by Dark"

After 30 years of operations in Waltham, we are navigating a new license agreement with the City of Waltham. A significant term requires our team to complete work, programs, CSA distributions and "use of the land" by dark. Thus, our Education Programs, CSA and Farm Stand hours will be adjusted as the

days grow shorter into late fall, so staff can clean up and close up before twilight ends.

Beginning **Wednesday October 16**, the Farm Stand will close 15 minutes earlier at 6:15pm. Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this adjustment.



🍁 Fall is in Full Swing at the Farm Stand

Fall flavors are abundant in the Farm Stand. Crisp, flavorful apples from Autumn Hills Orchard are available daily and winter squash from Buckle Farm is just around the corner. There are a number of new local items to round out your fall table including apple cider donuts from Pizzi Farm, maple pumpkin butter and apple honey butter from Sidehill Farm, apple cider from Carlson Orchards, sweet potato dumplings from Mei Mei, cranberry windsordale cheese from Vermont Farmstead, maple cream from Barred Woods maple, and so much more!

Shop the Farm Stand:

Wednesdays 2:30-6:30pm, 6:15 beginning Oct 16
 Thursdays 2:30-6:30pm, 6:15 beginning Oct 17
 Fridays 2:30-6:30pm, 6:15 beginning Oct 18
 Saturdays 9:30am - 2:30pm

The Farm Stand accepts SNAP and is a HIP certified vendor.
 Accepting Senior & WIC Coupons through October 26

Fall Education Programs are Underway

Drop In Tickets are now available for Little Sprouts, After School, and Teen Corp. Visit each program page for schedules, program information, and registration.



Little Sprouts

Caregiver & me program for toddlers and their families

After School

Out-of-school-time program for 1st through 8th grade learners

Teen Corp

For teens 13 - 17 years of age

WFCF Education and Enrichment Programs are hiring

We seek experienced Seasonal Lead Educators. Visit our [Job Opportunities](#) webpage for more details.

Don't Miss These Upcoming Workshops



Herbs & Plants for Winter Wellness

with Alex Klein
 Nov 2 | 1-3:30pm | \$40



Felting Fall

with Ms. Jess and the Rabbits
 Nov 9 | 1:30 - 4pm | \$60

December Workshops in the New Greenhouse

Workshops to be held in the shelter of our beautiful greenhouse in its first winter season!



Natural Wreath Making on the Farm

Dec 7 | \$55

Two sessions to choose from:

Morning 10am-12n

Afternoon 1:30-3:30pm



Rabbit Hosted Horchata & Hot Chocolate

Dec 14 | 12:30 - 2:30pm | \$25



Amanda Smith is our Director of Development

We're thrilled to announce that Amanda Smith is WFCF's Director of Development. Amanda has over 15 years of experience working with and in nonprofit organizations from leading corporate philanthropy to serving on boards. She's in part taking over some responsibilities previously held by Marla Rhodes who can now focus on her role as our Volunteer Coordinator.

Amanda most recently shared almost 2 years with WFCF as Supervisory Educator, working with our perennial programs, workshops, and supporting our growing spaces. Our education team is thrilled that Amanda will now contribute her professional expertise and organizational awareness in a new way. WFCF Education Programs will thrive on and we hope to see Amanda pop-in at the Learning Garden!

Meet the 2024 Field Crew



Lisa Lambert

Pronouns: she/they

I'm getting a Masters degree in biomimicry which is a field that not many people know about (yet:) For those that aren't familiar, biomimicry is about spotting something that works well in nature and then applying that 3.8 billion years of evolutionary genius to solve real world human design and social innovation challenges in a regenerative and sustainable way. This is my first season at WFCF, and I joined the team because I really wanted to be involved in local community food access in some way. I've worked with food banks before, but only at a community garden scale. To have an opportunity to work on a farm with a skilled and compassionate team

and work to grow food for people on a large scale has always been a dream of mine.



Robbie Harwood

Pronouns: they/them

I'm an animal lover and fermentation enthusiast (especially of vegetables I helped grow). This is my second year working at WFCF. I'm here to help grow delicious vegetables for the community with the rest of our amazing farmers.



Abigail (Abby) Harrison

Pronouns: she/her

I like making handmade paper using food scraps like onion and garlic skins! This is my second season at WFCF, but my first time season. I'm working at WFCF this season to spend time outdoors and connect with the source of my food.



Nina Waskiewicz

Pronouns: she/her

I sky dove from 15,000 ft the same week I became a certified open water SCUBA diver. This is my first season at WFCF, and I joined this team because while I knew I wanted to work at a farm to reconnect to the food system, WFCF was the right pick because of the food access and educational programs. This is a farm that is nourishing the community in more than one way.



Lily Gantchev

Pronouns: she/they

I studied abroad in South Korea for a semester. This is my first season at WFCF. I wanted to work at WFCF to get hands on experience at a farm at the scale of WFCF and to work at a farm dedicated to fighting food insecurity. I'm looking forward to getting to harvest all sorts of yummy veggies!

Community Events



Fall Craft & Vendor Fair

Waltham American Legion
October 27 | 11am - 4pm



Waltham Farmers' Market

65 Lexington Street
Saturdays 9:30am
through October 26

Waltham Philharmonic -

Fall Concert

Waltham Gov't Center
October 27 | 3pm

Waltham Fields Community Farm

240 Beaver Street, Waltham, MA 02452 (781) 899-2403

www.communityfarms.org

Mailing address

P.O. Box 540370 Waltham, MA 02454

Andy Andrews, **Farm Manager**

Stacey Daley, **Executive Director**

Martha Dorsch, **Administrative Coordinator**

Nadine Dyskant-Miller, **Assistant Farm Manager**

Jessica Herwick, **Director of Education & Community Engagement**

Marla Rhodes, **Volunteer Coordinator**

Amanda Smith **Development Director**

Ana Strayton, **Distribution & CSA Manager**

Trish Wesley Umbrell, **Associate Director**

Marina Vergara, **Community Outreach Farmer**

Assistant Growers Susannah Hilfer, Rabar M'Salih

Field Crew Will Borchard, Eli Burger, Lily Gantchev, Abby Harrison, Robbie Harwood, Lisa Lambert, Traci McCubbin, Nina Waskiewciz

Distribution Assistants Victoria Huebner, Yukiko Sato

Workshares Matt Bogart, Joy Grimes, Leanne Knight, Lizzy McEleney, Kristen Sopko, Emily Scruggs, Laura Rancatore, Steven Sukewski, Naomi Shea, George Chan, Katie Bradford, Kunaal Doshi, Aki Yonekawa



local food for everyone

Connect with WFCF



Waltham Fields Community Farm | 240 Beaver Street | Waltham, MA 02452 US

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