

# THE ROOT CONNECTION PO Box 267 Woodinville Wa 98072

www.rootconnection.com

(425) 881 1006

root-coop@hotmail.com Oct 25 2017



NOOOoooooo.....

That's right, this is the last week of the regular CSA season. Will miss seeing all of you coming and going and the fresh food.

**But, thank goodness for our Winter Share Program.** If you notice a decrease in your intake of fresh produce in the winter, are concerned about the high cost of produce, and are not purchasing Organic as much as you'd like because of the cost, Sign up now for our popular winter share program! **Still time if you get your form in now** – I have to order for next week at 5AM Monday!

**GREENS-** don't forget, you can come pick even after the season is over, as long as the plants hold up under whatever the winter brings on. If in doubt, shoot me an email, and I can let you know if there is anything pickable.

**The "Tractor Fund"** – thanks to those of you who made a gift, we now have close to \$15,000 which will go a long way to making a down payment for the new tractor.

**THANK YOU** On behalf of our whole crew, we thank you for being part of The Root Connection CSA this year. The enthusiasm of our members is what keeps us going. We are proud to be able to bring you the best food we can grow, and be a small part of your family's health. Seeing children growing up eating healthy food is wonderful.

**Farms for Life** thanks all who support this great grass-root organization which was started by Root Connection members. If you are figuring out year-end donations, consider FFL. Website is Farms4life.org **FFL is registered with the Microsoft Gift Match.**

Going into the "off-season" will be an adjustment from daily operations to planning for next season. Jeff and I both work year round, but I will certainly enjoy cutting my weekly hours down and spending time doing other things! Out will come the field maps, seed catalogues, budget sheets, greenhouse planning sheets, and the dreaded COGs (cost of production) spreadsheets (that one is over 60 pages- yikes). Jeff will be doing all needed repairs and equipment maintenance, dredging drainage ditches, and looking for those sweet spots in weather during February when he can get the cover crops tilled in some of the drier areas in preparation for the first plantings. In just 4 months, the rest of the crew starts coming back, and it begins all over!




**ARE YOU A PLANT?** (re-print from last year. Basic difference between plants and animals obviously is the brain. You could say that a plant has a "brain" too, but so different than animals. Also, animals aren't rooted in the ground. Or are we? I think we could compare gravity with roots, it holds us to this planet. Years ago I saw a drawing of a cross section of the earth. It showed how the mountain ranges were secured down into the core further than the flatlands, just like a huge tree would have deeper roots than a radish. Looking at the earth drawing, I thought "it's a plant!" And that's where the name "The Root Connection" came from. Even though we like to think that we can control our environment, if we lose the fresh food direct from the earth and our connection to the earth as a

whole we suffer. There is even a term now being studied called “nature deficit disorder”. The PCC newsletter had an article about that recently. We need the living earth, both through our food and our physical connection to it. This relates to the last letter where I talked about seeds. When we attempt to control through poisons, or building on land that was meant to feed us, polluting the water and air, or inserting un-natural DNA into our food, we are putting our arrogance before the most perfect design that we know of in the universe. Pride is a trap, usually related to greed, and never has a good outcome. Every year, the pressure to desecrate this valley intensifies. There is a parade of political policy makers that condescend to come tour the farm activities in the area. Mostly that involves making farmers feel like they should prove that they deserve to exist. One such tour took place here at RC. It was a beautiful day and the fields were covered with crops. Four people – staring straight ahead, standing in one spot as if afraid to look at the bounty around them. I was taking time out of my busy day to try to explain that we grow over 10 tons of produce per acre (organically!) right here. One man said “I don’t believe you.” In other words, he stood on this beautiful farm and called me a liar. They certainly had all the symptoms of “nature deficit disorder”. I had planned on giving them all a gift bag of wonderful produce (even had it bagged up). But I gave it to the Food Bank instead, where people would appreciate it. Made me feel a little better.

Finally, best wishes and prayers that all of you will have a good winter.

Remember -----

Claire & crew



Life  
is all about  
how you handle  
Plan B.