

THE ROOT CONNECTION PO Box 267 Woodinville Wa 98072

www.rootconnection.com

(425) 881 1006

root-coop@hotmail.com Aug 9 2017

FRUIT SHARE ALERT There are just a few people who consistently do not check off their name on the fruit list or the main check off roster. This means I have to put out fruit that we normally would sell, so it really costs the farm money and drives me crazy.

KID'S GARDEN ALERT Please do not send kids back there alone. They are kids and sometimes do not pay attention to signs. Or proper way to pick. We've lost nearly half of the carrot crop that will be ready in a couple of weeks cause kids were pulling the small ones out searching for big ones which is easy to understand as they don't know and don't necessarily pay attention to the "not ready yet signs" Go with your kids. Even if it's hot.

Have other people picking up for you? That is common during this vacation season and ok. But PLEASE explain the process to them – especially the hours we are staffed. Remind no staff on Thursdays! It's discouraging for folks to show up when there is not staff or after we're closed and they would like to experience the farm.

Plan ahead for the start of school – we always have a LOT of Wed/Thurs pickup members show up unannounced on Fri or Sat, and we have to give them old produce saved from the Wednesday harvest. It's very hectic getting the kids settled that first week (I can remember that!), so think about just changing your day to Fri or Sat for that week so you don't have to worry about it, and we can pick fresh for you. Just give us a weeks notice if you can, **but a last minute contact is better than nothing.** If you don't email or call ahead, we cannot give you produce from the Friday harvest.

Ditto for Labor Day Weekend, just in reverse.

How do we figure out tomato distribution?

At first, there will not be as many to pick, and we may have some for the Friday harvest, but not the Wed, etc. We may also do just "half pints" at first, so that more people can get some of the early ones, then start picking pints as more get ripe. We keep track of who gets what, and try even it out.

But in a couple of weeks or so, there will be enough so we will be picking twice a week.

How did we get along in the heat/smoke? Well it hasn't been fun, especially the smoke since we have to be out in it all day. Smoke haze tends to settle in valley areas, so lots of respiratory distress among all of us. We decided to start work at 6 instead of 7 to help a little, not sure if it does, but gets us out to the heat an hour earlier. The crops look fine, we were able to get most of the fall crops in and will finish up this week. Just been watering often so far so good. All the fall greens have been planted, collards, kales, mustards. This week we will start on Kohlrabi, turnips, bok choy, etc.

I just feel so sorry for the people back east with the floods. And weird weather in other areas of the world which is a lot worse than ours.

More Later