



# Bittersweet Gardens

CSA NEWSLETTER

## Summer Season, Week 5

### What's In My Share?

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Beets         | Banana Peppers |
| Cucumbers     | Thai Basil     |
| Tomatoes      | Genovese Basil |
| Summer Squash | Swiss Chard    |
| Okra          | Rosemary       |
| Bell Pepper   |                |

*Remember to rinse your produce before use!*

### Farm Fresh Recipe Links

[Thai Basil Eggplant](#)

[Classic Fattoush Salad](#)

[Fried Okra Cornbread Bites](#)

## CSA Updates and Information

It's week five of Summer CSA! This week we are featuring a couple unique herbs and veggies-- Thai basil (all share sizes, pictured above) and okra (Medium & Large!) You can use Thai basil like any other basil, but if you are feeling adventurous, check out the eggplant recipe at right!

**GARDENS VOLUNTEER NIGHT- THANK YOU:** Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Gardens Volunteer Night on Friday! We loved showing you around, sharing Bittersweet cookie samples, and getting a little work done!

**SAVE THE DATES- UPCOMING COMMUNITY ART FAIRS:** Visit Bittersweet Creative Arts at the Maumee Street Fair THIS SATURDAY, August 13th, and mark your calendar for the Apple Butter Fest in Grand Rapids on October 9th! Bittersweet art makes a perfect gift and provides meaningful, paid employment to artists with autism!

**PICK-UP INFORMATION:** As we soak up the last bit of summer, if you aren't able to pick up your share, please contact us to make other arrangements. You are welcome to designate a friend or family member to pick up your share! If your box is not picked up, we will be sure to donate it.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE NEEDS:** Please direct customer service needs to Beth Kuntz-Wineland, our Gardens Specialist, at [bkuntzwineland@bittersweetfarms.org](mailto:bkuntzwineland@bittersweetfarms.org) or 419-875-6986 ext. 1205.

## Gardens Team Highlights

This week, we have an extra special highlight from our Pemberville location! Did you know there is a greenhouse in Pemberville where the students in our Transition Program learn to garden? This is a crucial part of their life skills development and vocational exploration as they complete their high school education in the unique farmstead setting. When they have extra veggies, they love to contribute them to your CSA shares!

The okra featured in this week's Medium and Large shares was grown by Jonathan (pictured at right, above), one of the rising seniors in the Pemberville Transition Program. We got to be there as he harvested the okra, and he could NOT stop talking about how proud he was of his "monster sized" okra. We hope our Medium and Large shareholders enjoy this special treat!

Our second highlight is Darin (pictured at right, below), one of our long-time Gardens Team members in Whitehouse. Writing and labeling is one of Darin's favorite tasks, so he's been busy labeling stakes this week for late summer and fall crops. He also harvested purple tomatoes and bell peppers, watered, and assisted with sanitizing and organizing the Gardens Building. In addition to these projects for the CSA Program, Darin has been spearheading an herb drying project (featured in the photo at right) for our newest retail partner, Boochy Mama's in Toledo!



*The mission of Bittersweet, Inc. is to positively impact the lives of individuals with autism and those whose lives they touch.*