



# Community Supported Agriculture

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## Purpose

To create a handbook for new CSA start-ups

## Objective

To assist new Community Supported Agriculture groups in their start-up through the production of a handbook

## Community Supported Agriculture Handbook

What is community supported agriculture (CSA)?

- an alternative food supply system that gives local people the power to help protect the environment
- a system that connects local growers to local consumers in co-operation
- a model that helps develop a healthy regional food supply system
- a system that helps build a strong local economy
- a method of empowering people on an individual basis, then on a community basis, and eventually on a regional, national, and even global basis
- often described as “farming with a face on it” or “putting the culture back into agriculture”

The handbook describes the CSA philosophy, its significance, and the organizational model, which is open and flexible, depending on the member’ and farmers’ needs, and has varying levels of member participation payment arrangements. It also describes how to set up a CSA group, tips for making the group a success, a checklist, and a brief case study of the Just Picked CSA, formed in 2004.

**Community Partner:** Community Supported Agriculture

**Status of Project:** Complete



Just Picked CSA members with fresh produce

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