

# BRINES FARM

know your  
farmer



## Fresh Produce Winter CSA shares

**Brines Farm is offering fresh produce CSA shares this winter  
(November 2011 – April 2012).**

**What is a CSA share?** Community Supported Agriculture links a source of food (e.g. Brines Farm) with the consumer/eater (you). Often consumers purchase a share for a whole season ahead of time and pick up a weekly portion at a specified location. A central concept in CSA is that farm “shareholders” - as partners with the farmer - share some of the risks of production should yields vary a bit. Often, it is a win-win situation for both though. More info on CSA at [brines.org](http://brines.org)

**Are winter harvests even possible?** If growers are wise about crop selection and techniques, year-round harvesting is indeed possible in many climate zones, including ours. It does require a little more care, time, and labor but it is a labor of love! This will be the third year Brines Farm offers a fresh produce Winter CSA share and our seventh winter of selling fresh produce at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market. While not third-party “certified organic”, Brines Farm follows the most authentic and ecological practices possible. We are always learning to be more efficient and eco-friendly. Brines Farm utilizes heirloom, open-pollinated, and/or non-hybrid seeds where possible and all seeds are GMO-free. Shareholders may schedule visits to the farm to see how their food is grown. See more on Brines Farm’s sustainable agriculture techniques and methods, including press coverage, at [brines.org](http://brines.org)

**What’s included in a Brines Farm weekly winter share?** Lots of fresh greens. If you don’t like greens, this is not the CSA for you. Each week there will be a minimum target of 3 pounds of produce. The actual yield can be more early and later in the season, and can be thinner during cold spells i.e. this will be weather dependent (but our experience suggests we are usually able to offer shareholders something fresh every week). Much of each share will be made up of our very popular spinach, arugula, and winter salad mix (that includes a wide variety of lettuces and baby greens) and there is generally a large helping of bigger cooking greens including kales, collards, leaf broccoli or broccoli raabs, chards, and other asian greens. Also, each week there will be a few additional items in each share ranging from sweet hakurei turnips, sweet carrots, baby pac choi (aka bok choy, bok choy, etc.), cabbages, onions, potatoes, radishes, sweet potatoes, or winter squash. Each year we add to our variety offered and include some surprise additional items for our shareholders at various points in the season. On our website blog [blog.brines.org](http://blog.brines.org) we will discuss and have photos of what’s being harvested as well as ideas for recipes (you can share your recipes too!).

**See next page for sign-up details →**

## Specific Details - Brines Farm fresh produce Winter CSA shares

**Pickup Dates:** Brines Farm winter CSA shares will run from November 5, 2011 through April 28, 2012. (That's produce during half of the year - and produce during the half of the year farmers often refer to as the "backside of the calendar") Share pickup dates are: Sat Nov 5, Sat Nov 12, Sat Nov 19, Sat Nov 26, Sat Dec 3, Sat Dec 10, Sat Dec 17, Sat Jan 7, Sat Jan 14, Sat Jan 21, Sat Jan 28, Sat Feb 4, Sat Feb 11, Sat Feb 18, Sat Feb 25, Sat Mar 3, Sat Mar 10, Sat Mar 17, Sat Mar 24, Sat Mar 31, Sat Apr 7, Sat Apr 14, Sat Apr 21, Sat Apr 28 (i.e. every Saturday from November through April *except* the last two Saturdays in December).

**Pickup Time/Location:** Shareholder pickup is on the dates above between 8am-11:45am at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market at 315 Detroit Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Alternatively, shareholder pickup can be on the dates above off of Shannon's front porch at his house in Ann Arbor: 810 Sunrise Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Shareholders choose one pickup location for the season.

**Cost:** Brines Farm offers only full shares for our Winter CSA program (if you like, we can try to help you find someone to split a full share, let us know). The total cost of one full share is \$650 (for 24 pickup dates). PLEASE NOTE: Checks need to be made payable to SHANNON BRINES. We ask for a minimum \$100 initial deposit payment to secure your share spot with the remainder of the balance due in full by October 1st. If you would like to use an EBT bridge card, please contact us.

**How can I sign up?** Shareholders from the previous year are given the chance to renew by August 20th. After that, the remaining spots will then be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. (We can remind you when spots open up if you provide us with your information at <http://csa.brines.org>. When full, we keep a wait list as well should spots unexpectedly become available.) **To sign up please fill out the form below and deliver with initial payment either in person or via US Mail to: Shannon Brines, 810 Sunrise Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. If you have further questions, please contact Shannon Brines at [shannon@brines.org](mailto:shannon@brines.org), 734-926-5463, or visit our stall Wednesday evenings or Saturday mornings at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market.**

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**CSA Sign-Up Form**

Yes, please sign me up as a Brines Farm Winter CSA program shareholder for the November 5, 2011 through April 28, 2012 season! I have read all the details above and understand I share in the varying harvest yields that come with farming.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Amount Enclosed (made payable to "Shannon Brines"): \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Remaining Balance: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pickup Location (check one): Ann Arbor Farmers Market \_\_\_\_\_ Shannon's porch \_\_\_\_\_