



News Release

For immediate release – February 6, 2018

**Note to Media: If you would like to come out and tour the hoopouses and greenhouses, please call to schedule a day and time. You may use the pictures attached.*

Bittersweet's CSA Grows Local Produce with a Purpose

Whitehouse, OH...For the eighth year in a row, Bittersweet is accepting new members for the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. CSA is a mutual partnership of shared risk between local farmers and the community. Members buy shares of the harvest, and, in turn, the farmer is able to cover the initial costs of the growing season. The members then receive wholesome, fresh, nutrient-rich, local produce, along with a personal relationship with the farmer.

Bittersweet's CSA is more than a partnership. By joining Bittersweet's CSA, members support Bittersweet's greater mission of serving adults with autism. Supporting the CSA provides employment opportunities to adults with autism who live and work on the farm. As part of the work of the CSA, the participants are able to engage in agriculture-related activities such as readying the soil, planting the seeds, harvesting the crops, cleaning the produce, and packaging produce in the CSA boxes. This program also allows the individuals with autism who work at Bittersweet to engage with and contribute to the local community.

This year, Bittersweet Farms is offering two shares. The Standard Share is \$300 per season and the Petite Share is \$200 per season. The Standard Share feeds families and veggie lovers! The Petite Share is great for couples, individuals, and those who eat a moderate amount of produce each week. The breakdown of each season is as follows:

Spring Season:	April 24, 2018 – June 21, 2018
Summer Season:	June 26, 2018 – August 30, 2018 (no pick-up the week of July 4)
Fall Season:	September 4, 2018 – November 1, 2018

Bittersweet offers two pick-up locations and days. Members may choose Tuesday or Thursday pick-up at Bittersweet Farms in Whitehouse or at Walt Churchill's Market in Maumee. Pick-up times are as follows:

Bittersweet Farms, Whitehouse:	1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Walt Churchill's Market, Maumee:	3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Examples of spring produce include: mixed greens, kale, cabbage, herbs, root vegetables, spring garlic, and strawberries. Examples of summer produce include: broccoli, cucumbers, peppers, eggplant, onions, tomatoes, potatoes, squash, zucchini, kale, melons, corn, blueberries, and peaches. Examples of fall produce include: kale, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, tomatoes, winter squash, root vegetables, mixed greens, and apples.

To sign-up please visit our website: www.bittersweetfarms.org/csa

About Bittersweet, Inc.

For 35 years, Bittersweet, Inc. has been successfully serving adults and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders across three locations in Ohio. Bittersweet offers unique supports that encourage individuals with autism to grow and develop their abilities and talents in an agricultural setting. The Bittersweet community offers many products for sale to support employment and vocational opportunities for individuals with autism. The mission of Bittersweet, Inc. is to positively impact the lives of individuals with autism and those whose lives they touch.

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