

April 18, 2016



Beaver Creek CSA

your local food connection!

BEAVER CREEK GARDENS
beavercreekgardens.org

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Become a Member



We are not completely sold out yet. If you know

of anyone still looking to buy a CSA membership, have them call me at 815-494-1251 or email me: cdoetch53@gmail.com. We are currently priced from \$240 to \$595 for individual to full box memberships. Our box sizes are 3/4 or 1/2 bushel for 10 or 20 week subscriptions.

Garden and Weather Report

Hello from the Gardens!

Yes, Spring has finally arrived after a very cold start to the month of April! As you can see by the picture to the right, we are still anticipating some colder night time temperatures. We do not believe for one second that another Artic blast couldn't come down before or even in the first few weeks of May.



I also am covering these particular plants, broccoli and cauliflower, as they are magnets for an early fly that lays its eggs at the base of the plant. The larvae are called "cabbage root maggots", a lovely name, right? In addition to the lovely name, they are absolutely deadly to the brassica family of plants. The little white larvae feed on the roots and then into the main (tap) root of the plant where they kill it. We had an infestation last year, the only year I did not cover. It is extremely time consuming and hard work to put these "caterpillar" tunnels over, just ask Molly, Debbie B. and Cindy B. that helped plant and cover last week!

So the tunnels help keep the

bugs out and the warmth in which encourages faster growth. It took us about 2 hours to cover 5 beds!

The forecast for the next 30 days is above average temperatures for our area with below average rainfall - sounds like irrigation lines

to me, which is another necessity with our current climate. It seems that we either get too much in too short of a time period, or not enough. This, as I have been reporting, is the climate change that was forecast for us decades ago.

We had a great three days of work, getting all the plants in that I had hardened off and ready to go in. We planted and seeded over 20 beds. The initial seeding of peas, spinach and beets are up. We transplanted the asian greens (arugula, raab and mizuna) so that we will hopefully get ahead of those nasty flea beetles. Bill and Norm (they're back) ckleared straw, weeded garlic and pruned Ron's grapes.

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Spring Fling - May 14th From 9 to 1:00 p.m.

Come Saturday the 14th
We will have asparagus available and extra plants for sale!



Garden and Weather Report

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Pictured below are part of the Saturday crew. Amy Kaminski is back again from Schaumburg. She is just unbelievable on the water wheel transplanter and we introduced Teresa Falsone to that piece of equipment. In order to place plants 6 inches apart, you have to have great eye-hand coordination and I figure anyone that is young and plays the piano would have that? I think she did just fine. Pete and Cindy B are on the right, planting all those young spring onions you will see in your first boxes. They planted over 2,000 sets on one bed. I had John Jones drive the tractor pulling the transplanter (normally my job) and he did just great. He is our senior worker, having grown up on a farm in Mississippi where he tells us that he grew food to survive 70 some years ago! The young lady in the foreground on the left, is our youngest worker. She is a high school intern that will work for both Ron and I. Her parents wanted her to understand where food comes from. She will certainly learn that here. It appears that I have another great group of workers to help me get the food to your tables.

If you are wondering what I did on Saturday (besides taking pictures) - well I managed all these different crews, made sure they had everything they needed and kept the flow of work moving so that we could get as much done as possible with the wonderful weather we had over these three days. I also have to thank my husband Ron, he got up very early to prepare the beds, tilling and shaping them and then he and his young interns finished the day by putting all the irrigation lines down so that we could get water to these very fragile young plants.

We are in the process of transplanting tomatoes, peppers and eventually egg plant. They have to move to larger containers to finish their growth before planting outside - another full week or two of work for Karen Knabe, Sue C. and Desi, my awesome transplant help. We are pretty much done with greenhouse seeding other than some flowers and fall crops. I will keep you posted on the date for the first box - looks like 1st or 2nd week of June.

This Months Photo's

