#### January 2017 Winter Edition

### **Rare Earth Farm**



#### **Greetings Everyone!**

Hope you've all had a wonderful holiday season. As you can see by the above photo we're at one of the easier times of the year browsing through seed catalogs and deciding what to grow this summer. The month of December has been very revitalizing for both of us. This is our time of the year where we get to recharge ourselves both mentally and physically in preparation for the upcoming season. Now that we've had a good solid month of R & R we're at our desks working on our plans for the new season. Looking through an array of seed catalogs is just the start. There's a lot to do at this time of the year and planning every detail for the growing season is of the utmost importance. Abraham Lincoln was quoted in saying, " The best way to predict your future is to create it".

Much of our success and what we've created over the past twenty-seven years has occurred from a nationwide growth in sales and interest of organic and sustainably grown foods. At the time when subscription farming made its first debut in Wisconsin there

# Rare Earth Farm

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was only one natural foods store in Milwaukee. It was pretty much an open court for CSA farmers. I guess you would say that we were in our "Hey-Day". Now supermarkets everywhere are stocking their shelves with an ever increasingly large variety of fresh and processed organic foods. In response to this we ourselves are having to reassess our own business and determine how we can improve our program to better serve our community of members.

The most important tool we have in evaluating our services is by your personal feedback. If you could take a few minutes to fill out our survey that would be of great help. This is the time when we want to communicate with you so we can consider your suggestions as we make our new years plans. We may not be able to satisfy everyone's requests but we'll do our best to give all of your feedback our strongest consideration.

Want to renew for next season? Click here; <u>http://rareearthfarm.csasignup.com/members/types</u>

The link below will take you to our survey page.

If you've renewed your membership for this year we thank you for being prompt with your return. This is the time of the year when we purchase many of our supplies needed for the year so renewing your membership now is helpful not only in procuring our supplies but to further help us in our crop planning.

Thank you again for your sincere interest in our farm. Our next newsletter will be published in February.

Until then stay warm and eat well!

Steve & Debra Jo



## Farm Survey

The survey takes about two minutes to complete and will be of great help. Please email us if you have any further feedback to offer. We thank you!

https://docs.google.com/forms/ d/

<u>e/1FAIpQLSdBvbc4n6iDuSVdX</u> <u>sXALsHUjM5QpcpNmvyxgkby</u> <u>uiLMH1\_BWQ/viewform</u>

One of the last projects of the season is to apply mulch over our strawberries and garlic. Now they're both nestled under a blanket of straw that will keep them cozy and comfy until next spring .

We published a new edition of our farm photo album and you can view it by clicking on the link below. The slideshow images were taken and cataloged over the last eight years. When you get into google you can go to the upper right hand corner of your screen and click on "more options". Then choose "slideshow"

https://photos.google.com/share/ AF1QipPZSOPOem5wXuV2J2551gNXmw6QcPY7Fyft1a8b 7J\_YFi3zJjadPDQqoXz9W01Pug? key=ZkcxTGt4djRQSXJmbzBjNEx LSlhxcW5EejRnMkxB

