



## Rare Earth News

Winter Edition

Outside winter is still has a grip, while inside new life begins.

Having space indoors to grow vegetables during this time of the year has been a very special attribute to the farms overall capabilities. Without greenhouse space the selection and availability of food throughout our main growing season would be greatly compromised. Beyond that it's just great to have a place at this time of the year where you can still smell fresh unfrozen earth. The sun coming into the building completes a virtual sensation that tricks your mind into believing its summer again. A great cure for cabin fever!

We just completed our first seeding of leeks and onions. If these alliums are going to be ready for harvest by mid summer we need to get them started now. Even though spring is around the corner, as you well know we could still be facing some pretty nasty weather this month and next. Either way we have to keep moving ahead.

A quick mention, we're looking for new subscribers who live out in the Waukesha area to boost the number of shares going out that way. If you know anyone who lives out that way who might be interested in eating with us this summer please mention our program.

Get a jump on the season and sign up for a CSA vegetable share today. Payment options available. Click on "Sign me up for 2019" and you'll be redirected to our online sign-up page.

**Note:** For renewals click on the "returning member" link in the green box at the top of the web page.

**[Sign me up for 2019!](#)**

Last year we introduced a new way through our web store to buy additional food and have those purchases integrated into the weekly share boxes. Our goal is to transition slowly from a traditional CSA program to a new sort of hybrid share that gives people greater options to choose and pay for what they receive. As we transition towards a more flexible way for our customers to buy our produce we hope you'll embrace the online web-store idea and purchase some additional amounts of your favored vegetables this summer.

You may have noticed we didn't raise the price of the share this year. I'm anticipating the collective income from webstore and restaurant sales will help to offset the need for making annual increases to the price of our share program. As always it's been the goal to keep our prices comparable to or close



Junco's puffing themselves up to stay warm during those bitter cold days in February.



Deer taking residence nearby have caused significant crop damage during the summer. Hoping the newly installed electric fence will keep them from coming in at night and eating our greens.

to local retail store prices. Using all certified organic products for fertilizers and for

pest management, and even in making our own compost the costs are high. In light of that, we don't want to skimp on our practices either just to save a buck and potentially jeopardize the health and quality of our crops. Quality is everything and it's worth paying for especially with food.

This year will be Rare Earth's 29th season. I don't go without a day feeling a tremendous amount of gratitude for everyone who's enabled me to hold my title as their local farmer. Thank you, and I believe we're all looking forward to warmer days and greener fields. Take care!

"Your body will be around a lot longer than that expensive handbag. Invest in yourself."

## Part and Full time work opportunities at Rare Earth Farm

This summer if you're looking to put a little extra spending cash into your pocket and you have the time, consider taking a position at the farm to assist us with the work load.

If you're well fit to handle this kind of work and can put in at least three full days a week in over the entire season send us a letter of inquiry along with a simple resume containing your work history. Here's a link to send your request. Click "[Here](#)" for more information on employment.



We still have honey and maple syrup available on our web store. \*Only available for on-farm pick up. Click here to order <http://rareearthfarm.casignup.com/store/maple-syrup/honey>

