



# Conservation Commission

## Town of Lebanon

579 Exeter Road, Lebanon, Connecticut 06249  
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The USDA defines Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) as a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm operation so that the farmland becomes, either legally or spiritually, the community's farm, with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of food production. Members or shareholders of the farm pledge in advance to cover [or subsidize] the anticipated costs of the farm operation. In return, they receive shares in the farm's bounty throughout the growing season, as well as satisfaction gained from reconnecting to the land.

CSA's provide farmers guaranteed income and the ability to plan according to their customer base. By providing direct sales to community members who have provided the farmer with working capital in advance, growers receive better prices for their crops, gain some financial security and are relieved of some of the burden of marketing.

Consumers are provided the benefit of seeing their food grow, learning about agriculture and interacting with the grower. It is believed that children and adults eat better when they know where their food comes from. It is also believed that the number of consumers looking to participate in a CSA far exceed existing growers in the state and region.

### TOWN OF LEBANON 2010 COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA) GRANT APPLICATION

Grant Award Amount: Up to \$1,000  
Application Deadline: April 30, 2010, with grant award anticipated in May 2010  
Eligibility: Lebanon residents interested in starting or expanding a CSA

The purpose of Lebanon's **Community Supported Agriculture Grant** ("CSA Grant") is to strengthen the economic viability of the Town's agricultural production by providing funds to help develop Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). The focus of CSA Grant funds is to provide seed money to create new (or enhance existing) CSA's and provide stimulus to the local agricultural economy while providing the greatest opportunity for local residents to purchase local crops. Grant funds can be used for:

- ✓ Business plan development, producer-consumer document development
- ✓ Marketing
- ✓ Planting and ground preparation (seed, fertilizer, feed)

Upon award of the CSA Grant by the Town of Lebanon payment will be made with ½ funding up front and the remainder upon successful completion of project or no longer than six (6) months from date of contract award. Failure to complete the project within six (6) months will result in withdraw of the grant award and award of final payment. Please note that the Town reserves the right to accept or reject any application.

The CSA Grant Coordinator or agent of the Conservation Commission may make periodic visits to the farm during the grant award period. Please note that information contained in the application and contract for CSA Grant funds are available to the public upon request.

2010 COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA) GRANT APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

[Please use separate sheet of paper to answer the following questions if more space is needed.]

List all produce and/or products you plan to offer for sale in your CSA: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How will you market and price your product, and to how many customers? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How will the grant funds be used (please be specific)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been farming this land and in what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is this application for a new or existing CSA? If existing, explain how this grant will help the CSA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_