



AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

DIVISION OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES

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TO: Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)
Senior Farm Share Housing Sites

FROM: Amy Nickerson, MS, RD

DATE: March 27, 2007

RE: Senior Farm Share Program Application Information

Enclosed you will find the application materials for participation in the 2007 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Senior Farm Share Program. As a result of 2006 federal legislation relating to the SFMNP, there will be some changes in Vermont's program. **Please read the contents of this memo carefully to learn about the 2007 program changes.** The changes include:

1. The Senior Farm Share benefit level is now \$50.00 for a 10-week season rather than \$100.00 for a 20-week season. The share delivery season will run from approximately mid-July through the end of September.
2. With the benefit level change, there are funds available for awarding additional shares. We anticipate funding an additional 300 shares for 2007 (the total number of shares will be slightly more than 900, compared with 636 in 2006). Expansion will be achieved by increasing the number of participants at previously participating housing sites and recruitment of new housing sites and CSA farmers.
3. There are other program requirements that will be explained in the near future.

The immediate priority is to send out the application materials and have them returned to me by April 10th. Attached to this message are:

1. Senior Farm Share Program Summary
2. Senior Farm Share Applications
 - a. If you have participated in the program before and do not expect to make any program changes, you may use the abbreviated application form.
 - b. If you are a 1st-time applicant, you must complete the full application form.
3. Senior Farm Share Program Contact Information. All sites must complete this form.

If you would like to be considered for the 2007 CSA Senior Farm Share Program, please complete the application form and contact information sheet. **Application materials must be returned to me by 4:00 p.m. on April 10, 2007.** Although there is no longer a Request for Proposal process, you must provide similar information about how you intend to manage the program. We will still use a scoring system to determine the number of shares to be awarded.

Once the shares have been awarded, Enid Wonnacott from NOFA-VT (the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont) will notify you regarding next steps.

Another change in the way Vermont operates the Senior Farm Share Program relates to the provision of food and nutrition education. UVM Extension will no longer provide on-site food demonstrations. Instead, they will provide a training in May for all housing site resident services coordinators to learn how to provide food and nutrition demonstrations during the growing season. At the May training, we will also hold a Senior Farm Share Program orientation. Additional details about the training time and date in your region (we will hold the session in three locations) will be provided at a later date. In the meantime, please hold the following dates: May 15, May 17 and May 24. You will be required to attend one of these meetings.

If you have questions about the application process for the 2007 Senior Farm Share program, please call me at 802-241-2930 or send me an email at amy.nickerson@state.vt.us. Thanks and we are looking forward to another great growing season!

CC: Enid Wonnacott, NOFA - VT