

**January 13, 2022**

Hi Everyone,

It is currently 8 degrees outside and the wood stove is really cooking . I am glad we are not running greenhouses at this time and the sheep have held off on bringing new lambs into the world. Those late night and early morning barn checks will start soon enough.

Last year at this time I was in Pittsburgh and ignoring the weather, politics , stacking wood and most other parts of life except taking care of my 3 month old grandson. Even the pandemic seemed less of a concern since I never left the apartment except to take long walks. (wearing a mask ! )

We got most of our infrastructure projects completed last year at the farm , except my high tunnel , but Rick has promised me it will get up this spring. Ben continues to work with us and we ( and our aging bodies ) are grateful for his work.

I don’t see too many changes in the farm for the upcoming season. Membership cost in the CSA will remain the same and so will pick up days and times. The one change we would like to make is to take a week in July to skip pick ups and focus on getting some field work done. The beginning of July can be an “in between” time for produce. The strawberries and spring crops are usually finishing up and beans , garlic , and the summer produce is just starting to take off . It is a good time to get second plantings of crops in , catch up on weeding and maybe even do some scouting for insects and disease – a basic check on overall health of the crops. It is also a time around the 4th of July when many folks take summer vacations. So we will keep you informed on this new idea.

I hope you are all staying warm and healthy and looking forward to the 2022 season at Intervale Farm.

Sincerely,

Rick and Maureen