



# Wind Hill Happenings

## FIRST EDITION

### What's happening

Welcome the Wind Hill Farm's newsletter Wind Hill Happenings.

During the growing season we will be updating you on what's happening at the farm.

We have a great summer planned and a lot of ideas that we want to implement.

You can help us just by being apart of the community and supporting us in our mission to grow healthy food and create a place that everyone feels that they belong.



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# WELCOME ABOARD

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## New Farm Manager

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A big welcome aboard to our new farm manager Jim Peppin.

We were fortunate that Jim found our ad in the River East News Bulletin.

Jim comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience growing vegetables for farmers markets.

An experienced mushroom cultivator (you may have seen mushroom logs in front of the hoop house) he will be teaching a workshop on growing shitake mushrooms on logs this month and in the fall.

Let's show him how our wonderful community will support him as he takes the reins as the new Farm Manager.



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## Farm Stand

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On Site  
Saturdays

11:00am - 2:00pm

Available produce will be announced each on Fridays on the home page of our website and also on [Facebook](#).





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## CSA

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### Starting Now

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Our CSA will launch Saturday, June 7th. Jim, our farm manager, is reporting that "everything is looking good" as we start our CSA season.

Pick up times are:

Tuesday 4:00pm - 6:00pm

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Saturday 11:00am - 2:00pm

Don't miss out!

If you haven't already done so, go to our website and reserve your share  
<https://windhillfarm.org/csa-2025>



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### What's growing

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Jim started planting crops in March to test the soil, since then we have produced an abundance of various lettuces as well as radishes and beets carrots, peas, swiss chard and kale.

Summer planting has started and we're optimistic about our progress.

If you missed the Summer CSA we hope to offer an extended period with late summer and early fall crops.

We'll keep you posted!



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Fountainhead

Legendary CT Band Fountainhead returns and brings its magic to Classics and Originals.

Fountainhead, was formed in 1974 and played in the heyday of the 80's club scene. They rocketed to local and regional stardom opening for and playing with Lynyrd Skynyrd, the Allman Brothers, The Marshall Tucker Band, and The Outlaws, to name a few. Their awesome sound on the backdrop of a scenic sunset sets the right mood for Summer fun.

July 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00 - 8:00pm

Bring along a picnic dinner to enjoy with friends, old and new.



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### Educational Workshops

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Farm Fresh Kids

June 23 -27

July 7 - 11

July 21-25

Monday - Wednesday - Friday

Rain day Tuesday/ Thursday

Yoga classed with Jodi

Wednesday's at the farm.

Shitake Mushroom Log Workshop

June 13<sup>th</sup>

Want to learn how to grow mushrooms? We will be offering a workshop that introduces you to growing your own mushroom.

Learn more on our website

[Farm Fresh Kids and More](#)





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## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

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### Weekly deliveries

Wind Hill Community Farm gives back to the community by supporting local food pantries through donations of fresh produce. Last year through the efforts of our dedicated volunteers we were able to donate over 400 pounds of fresh produce that helped families in need. Social Services staff welcomed the donations and reported that residents are delighted with the selection of fresh vegetables.

We've started making deliveries in May, with hopes of exceeding last year's total.



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## Friends of the farm

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We are grateful to everyone who supports us. A big thank you to all our volunteers. You help us thrive and always exceed our expectations.

If you'd like to join our garden community, please stop by our weekly Weed & W(h)line to meet the Wind Hill volunteers, and learn about the many ways volunteers help at the farm. We welcome all with any level of gardening/farming experience.

Monday starting @ 4:30pm

Interested in become a volunteer? Go to [www.windhillfarm.org/get-involved](http://www.windhillfarm.org/get-involved) and sign up





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## GARDENING TIPS

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### Evicting invasives

Velvet Leaf is an invasive species that you might mistake for a sunflower. It can grow to be eight feet tall, has yellow flowers, and seed pods that resemble immature sunflowers.

If you see this in your gardens, please pull it immediately and put it into a black garbage sack for removal. Velvetleaf seeds exhibit dormancy which can enable them to survive over 50 years in the soil, so do not add it to compost as it will then end up in our gardens again. For more information on identifying invasive plant species, go to

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/abutilon/theophrasti/>



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### Companion planting

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The best way to improve the growth of your veggies and attract beneficial insects and repel pest is to plant flowers and herbs that have beneficial attributes for your garden

For instance, basil and marigolds are good companions to tomatoes. Sunflowers pair well with cucumbers and pole beans. They help provide support for climbing plants and shade for crops, which can become sun-stressed in hotter climates.

For more information go to:

<https://www.almanac.com/companion-planting-guide-vegetables>







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## POLLINATOR FACTS

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### The most important pollinator

Bees are important to our on going survival. They are essential to the world, farmers and gardeners especially.

Bees are responsible for pollinating 75% of the global crop. Contributing significantly to global food security and the health of ecosystems. They also pollinate around three-fourths of the world's flowering plants, supporting the reproduction of a vast number of plant species. They along with butterflies, , moths, and flies, as well as birds, bats, and even some small mammals, can act as pollinators.



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### Cellophane Bee



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### Bee Facts

Bees of the genus *Colletes* line the cells of their nests with a waterproof material which, when dry, resembles clear plastic. Accordingly, they are sometimes called “cellophane bees” or, alternately, “polyester bees”. Cellophane bees are equipped with unusual forked tongues, which they use to paint the plastic-like material onto their nest walls in order to keep their nests dry. The bees produce the material from a special abdominal organ called the Dufour’s gland, named after French naturalist Léon Jean Marie Dufour, who first recorded his fascination with the bees’ fabrication of plastique in 1835.



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## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

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### Swiss Chard & Carrots

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1/2 medium onion, chopped  
2 carrots, peeled and chopped to medium dice  
1 bunch chard, stems chopped to medium dice; leaves rough chopped  
1 tablespoon of olive oil  
Heat the oil in a medium sauce pan. Add the carrots and cook until lightly browned; add the chard stems and the onions and cook until almost tender. Add the leaves and toss until wilted. Season to taste and enjoy!



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## Growing Sharing Teaching

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We hope you enjoyed the first addition of Wind Hill Happenings. If you like what you see we encourage you to go to our website and subscribe to keep up to date. We welcome any and all feedback.

Wind Hill Community Farm & Learning Center

3006 Hebron Ave, Glastonbury, CT

[windhillfarm.org](http://windhillfarm.org)