

February 2022 Dirt From the Farm Spyglass Gardens llc

GroundHog saw his shadow!

Not sure about all of you, but we had loads of sunshine on Groundhog Day, and we were doing the happy dance hoping we would get 6 more weeks of winter. Moisture of any kind is welcome, but unfortunately it's been cold and dry. If this continues it will affect the buds on trees and emerging spring flowers and spring crops. It feels like a false spring coming, warming days have got the bees out doing their cleansing flights and cleaning their hives. No food for them yet, so beekeepers feed them sugar water. Our hives have a bit of last fall's honey in them for this very purpose. Though we want to get out and work the ground we are holding back. In theory the frozen moisture is full of microbial life and to plow or compact the soil would destroy what took nature all winter to grow. Also a lot of good bugs nest in the top layer or under mulched leaves, leaving for a bit longer is beneficial. Silly groundhog he must have slept in that day!

Greenhouse is greening up!

This year we decided to start a bit early and germinate plants on the 5' X 16' heat table. We have approximately 2000 cells propagated, many have already sprouted. Of those are: Thyme, Oregano, Tarragon, Onions, hard to germinate flowers, Amaranth and cold crops for earlier planting. The table is covered with clear plastic and has a thermostatic heater underneath. Keeping the seeds at a constant 70 degrees is important. By covering we are able to heat only with the heater below and not have to run our big heater. In 2 weeks we will have another heat table filled and hanging baskets all plugged with flowers and greenery. At that point the main heater will be turned on to keep the greenhouse at growing temperature. Heat tables will still be used at night, the freshing planted seeds will need more heat.



Answer to Prayers

Steve and I are very excited to announce our new staff member. Bethany Rohm Hawkins. She is no stranger to the farm. Bethany and her 4 siblings worked for us starting in 2002, each of them working 3-4 years at a time. You might say we had at least 1, 2 or 3 Rohms' working for us for 17 years straight. Bethany, (married to Sam Hawkins and Levi their son) Is Back! Her energy, creativity and amazing sense of humor is infectious! The greenhouse duties have definitely multiplied through the years and having Bethany to help Wendy with the daily tasks, creating living vessels, transferring plants and not to mention getting the field ready. Bethany's knowledge of the farm is a huge benefit. She is a great cook & preserver and is looking forward to sharing her experiences with all of you. Definitely an "Answer to Prayer!" Best of All, their little boy gets to grow up on the farm too!

Farm Volunteer Cleanup Days - March 5 and March 12th

9am to 2pm Lunch is provided, email us please, so we have enough yummy foods for all. Bring gloves and wear layered clothes. Last year's picture, it was a very productive day for sure!



We still have 15 CSA shares left for our 2022 Season - If you haven't already, reserve yours now!

Happy Valentine's Day to All ! Let us all Love One Another. Cherish the memories of those past and to Love Unconditionally those around us.

