

We'll be back under the Purple Tent this Saturday at Cobblestone! Some of the goodies you'll find includes Spinach, Spring Garlic, Strawberry Baskets and MORE! Get more details about what we'll be bringing below.



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!

First of all, we want to thank you for your support of our Summer Plant Sale! We were feeling the love last weekend -- soooo many plants journeyed from our greenhouse to your homes! And thanks for all of the boxes, trays and recyclable agriculture plastic, too!



We're hoping that the cold snap on Sunday through Tuesday didn't affect your plants. We were trying to warn every one of the impending cold, and we hope we were able to get that message to you.

On Sunday, a great group of folks learned about growing better tomatoes at home. This hardy group braved the damp and chill and heard from Farmer Ray

about our tips and tricks for growing tomatoes. Then they got to check out the tomato plantings in our Demo Garden as well as in two of our high tunnels. Smiles all around and a buzz about all the tomatoes in their future!



With one plant sale in the rear-view mirror, it was time to focus our attention on getting potatoes in the ground. This year we are planting a bit less than last year -- only 750 pounds.

One of the tasks that takes the longest is cutting potatoes. Last year it took a couple of days to get through them. This year, the A-Team jumped to our rescue! Wow! They knocked it out in time for lunch! A HUGE Thank You to Lisa, Amy and Brayden!



Detroit also got in on the potato love.



Now that the potatoes are cut into proper sizes, it's time to get them in the ground. Ray got inspired by some reading to once again try using our old transplanter for the task. This old planter had been sitting by the driveway since the last time it was used in 2013. That experience was pretty dreadful because one of the folks working for us kept throwing the potatoes into the chute instead of dropping them -- that damaged the potatoes so much that we had a pretty pathetic crop.

By talking with Cheryl's cousin, Blaine, Ray learned that you could actually use the plant holders (clamps) on the chain. There are specialized potato "cups" you can buy but Blaine said that the plant holder would work just fine.

After figuring and adjusting -- and figuring and adjusting some more, Ray got the equipment set up and ready for [a test run](#). He even cobbled something attached to the planter to bury drip tube while we plant. Looking pretty good, don't you think?



After the planter went about 15 feet, it was time to stop and see how well it was performing. Ray was pleased with the results -- the spacing isn't as tight as

we'd like (12" vs 9") but it will do the job. After a bit more prepping of the field, we'll be a plantin' machine tomorrow! Wish us luck!



A few other things that happened this week....

Little snow peas are starting to form in Lil' Abner. Can't wait to sink my teeth in those -- you didn't want any, did you?



I spy...TOMATOES! Actually, we've got the first of the slicers that are almost ripe along with these Valentine grape tomatoes. Won't be long now!

The last of the overwintered brassicas is now out of North 1 and it's ready for the oodles of plants waiting to move to their new home.



Cobblestone Farmers Market Update

After our little plant sale "break," we'll be back at Cobblestone on Saturday with bunches of delicious Certified Organic veggies for your culinary pleasure. This week's first is **Summer Squash!** These babies have started to pop in one of our unheated tunnels and (as someone who has had squash for supper two nights in a row plus lunch today ;-)), they are DELICIOUS!



We'll also have **Spring Garlic**, **Radishes**, **German Butterball and Creamer Potatoes**, beautiful **Rosie Pac Choi**, **Spinach**, Snacking Cucumbers, Sunflower and Pea Shoots along with our famous Garlic Powder.



We're bringing our amazing **Strawberry Hanging Baskets** this week! They are filled with everbearing strawberry plants and most already have fruit. Oh. So. Good!



In our plant department, you'll also find Blackberry and Raspberry Plants,

Ginger Plants, [Green Chile](#) plants, [Heirloom Brandywine Black Tomatoes](#), [Thai Red Roselle](#) and MORE! We look forward to seeing you on Saturday!

[Cobblestone Farmers Market](#) is open from 8:30-noon every Saturday. It is located at 1007 Marshall Street SW (at the intersection of Salem Avenue). Plenty of parking surrounds market but make sure not to block entrances or park on grass or other landscaping.

That's all we've got for this week, friends! Before we go, we want to make sure you have a couple of dates on your calendar. Our [Second Chance Plant Sale](#) is on May 3rd and 4th. And our very popular [Ginger and Turmeric Growing Workshop](#) will be held here at the farm on Sunday, May 19. More information will be coming next week.

Have a great weekend!

Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

