

Fall Flavors Galore! Lots of Sweet Potatoes, Fennel, Celery, Pac Choi and Garlic. Plus even more that that delicious Baby Ginger! Check out the details of what we'll be bringing to Cobblestone below.



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



A month into the season, Autumn is singing her full-throated song. Amazing colors are everywhere, and crystal-blue skies make us think that we are back in New Mexico. Our Sassafras tree is really putting on a technicolor show this year.

We're trying to soak up as much of this beauty (and warmth!) as possible before grey days return.

Garlic On Our Mind...

We are now in full-tilt Garlic Mode at the farm. Planting pans have been finalized for how much to plant, and field preparations are well underway.

The sheets of landscape fabric that we told you about last week have now been sanitized and are baking in the sun until we get them placed next week.

Folding up a 10' x 100' section of landscape fabric is no easy feat, but Jonny made it happen! The bundles of fabric were neatly folded and were ready to go into their sanitizing spa on Tuesday.



Kicking the Season into Gear!

Part of preparing to plant always includes spreading fertilizer and incorporating it into the field. For garlic, our go-to's are [Harmony](#) and [Bone Meal](#). Garlic needs a lot of fertility, but you don't want to use something that is overly strong. Both of these products give the garlic what it needs to develop roots and begin to grow -- but they don't over-stimulate the growth process.

This year, we wanted to add some coffee grounds to the beds to improve soil texture. There are many [benefits of using coffee grounds](#) but primarily they serve as a good soil conditioner. Our clay soils can be tight and cloddy and we want looser soils for the garlic to grow bigger and unconstrained.

Rocky's to the Rescue!

Our friends at [Rocky's Coffee & Ice Cream](#) in Danbury and the [Stokes County Arts Council](#) have been generously providing us with coffee grounds from the cafe. We've been stockpiling them and loaded them up for our 2025 Garlic Field!



Jonny got the bags all laid out and sprinkled the coffee grounds on to the beds. The aroma of coffee permeated the morning air -- that'll wake you up!



Here's hoping that this helps perk up next year's crop!

You Just Crack Me Up!

Still in the garlic planting theme, it was time for our annual(-ish) Garlic Cracking Crop Mob! We gather together a group of our garlic-loving friends, and we sit around to "crack" or "pop" the garlic into cloves. A beautiful fall afternoon was the setting for this year's event which helps us get closer to our goal of planting by the end of the month. A huge thank you to our volunteers Jack, Kelley, Suzi, Tiffany and Zara for helping us achieve this task!





Cobblestone Farmers Market Update

Fall flavors galore will be under the Purple Tent this week! We'll have a new variety of **Sweet Potatoes** -- NC122. Despite its clinical name, this tater is rich and sweet with caramel notes. Yum!



We'll also be bringing oodles of the Bayou Belles that y'all have been gobbling up the past couple of weeks. Don't forget to pick up our recipe handout to bring out the best of these healthy and delicious tubers.

Lots of **Baby Ginger** again this week -- some lovely hands of this delicacy await you. If Baby Ginger is new to you, it is a fresher, brighter version of ginger. The rhizome is smooth, not fibrous -- if you've ever had pickled ginger at a sushi restaurant, that is baby ginger. It is an awesome ingredient in SO many dishes -- and we also have a handout for caring for it once it's

in your kitchen plus some great recipes. BTW, Ginger freezes beautifully!



We'll also have **Fennel, Pac Choi, Snacking Cucumbers, Okra, Celery**, and lots of **Garlic** including the popular **Garlic Sampler Bags**. We'll also be bringing **Seed Garlic** for planting.

And **Peppers** -- from Sweet to Spicy! We'll have the full line-up of **Green Chile** -- from MILD to Extra Hot plus the spicier peppers (Jalapeno, Serrano, Aji Amarillo, Aji Limo, Chinese Five Color and Habanero). We'll also have **Sweet Peppers** -- Corno di Toro, Picnic, Jimmy Nardello, and Lipstick Peppers. **Ready-to-Go Fire-Roasted Sweet Peppers (Pimento and Sweet Italian) and Green Chile will also be available.**

Don't forget, ALL of our produce is Certified Organic, and we are the only Organic vendor at Cobblestone.



Saturday is the annual Vendor Costume Contest at market. Purchase tickets to cast vote(s) for your favorite vendor costumes (us?!). **All proceeds will benefit the Cobblestone Food Access Program.** Here's how it works: Tickets to vote are \$1 each and can be purchased during Market at the Information Booth. Drop your ticket in our bucket -- because you know you'll love it!

We look forward to seeing you! [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. Just look for the **Purple Tent** when you get into the Market area -- we are next to the white building!

That's all we've got for you this week, Friends!

More great things happening this weekend -- and that gorgeous weather is supposed to continue. Tonight, check out a FREE screening of [Hotel Transylvania at Crossnore](#). This is the last screening in their Big Backyard Movie Nights series, so don't miss out. It's so much fun to go sit on the grass and watch the people -- and then the film. Kid friendly activities start at 6:30 and the film begins at dark. Take a picnic and enjoy the show!

Sunday will be the last day of the [North Carolina State Fair](#) in Raleigh. Interested in going? **Be the first to contact us to get TWO general admission tickets that get you in the gates for FREE (\$26 value)**. Email us and we'll let you know if you won! Tickets will be available for pick-up at our tent at Cobblestone on Saturday morning! Good Luck!

Don't forget: You've only got one more week to vote Early! **Early Voting runs through Saturday, November 2**. Find your Early Voting polling place [here](#).



Have a great Weekend!
Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

