



Down on the Farm Notes: October 20th, 2009

Hello everyone,

Welcome to the first Grateful Autumn Basket. This is a beautiful time of the year with all of the colors and the cooler days. We hope you enjoy the upcoming weeks of harvest. You will see many crops that can be stored in your garage such as winter squash and potatoes. We will load you up with both, but remember that they can be kept over the winter and enjoyed when the snow is falling later on.

You will find tomatoes this time because Rick has just a few left in the hoop house that did not freeze. They aren't the prettiest things, but they still have better flavor than what you would purchase in the store. Enjoy!

Here is what you'll find in the Basket:

- *Butternut squash
- *Pie Pumpkin
- *Popcorn (Use for decoration right now. The corn needs a little time to finish drying. Later in November you can pop it)
- *Mixed Greens
- *Onions
- *Garlic chives
- *Potatoes

This is the time of year where we are gathering a little bit of everything in from the fields, so you may find a surprise in the basket at times.

Visit the recipe section of our website to find many recipes for soups and such. After all, it is time of the year to enjoy comfort foods.

www.greatbasinbasket.com

A Little Housekeeping:

1. For your convenience and to cut down on paper, we decided to make the newsletter available to you via email. We will include a hard copy in your first box each season, and thereafter we will begin emailing them to you. If you do not have email access, just let Pauline know at (775) 843-6402 and we will have the newsletter available for you at the pick-up locations. You will be responsible for grabbing your newsletter when you pick up your box. All of our newsletters are available on the website at www.greatbasinbasket.com.

2. Please remember that your baskets are only available for pick up during the 3 to 4 hour window at each specific location. Check your location's pick-up times.

3. BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINERS TO PICK UP/ PLEASE DO NOT THROW AWAY YOUR BOXES!!

This program is an exercise in sustainability all the way. We request that you bring your own bag or basket for picking up. Your food will be waiting for you in our Nevada Grown Boxes; however, they cost \$3.00 each, so we discourage taking them unless there's no other choice. Do return every box you take. During the heat of summer, a cooler is recommended.

A. To make sure that the cost of the boxes does not have to be added to the cost of the food, we're going to explain how to break them down without breaking them. Once the boxes are torn, they are of no use anymore.

B. On the top of your box, while you hold down the long side of the box, push down gently and out on one of the flaps on the short side and slide it back.

C. Next, do the same with the other side.

D. After you have emptied your box, turn the box upside down, push down on the center as you slide the short flaps back and out, one at the time.

Should you need help with the box, please ask your volunteer how! Thanks for taking the time!

4. Our program is successful because of many kind, wonderful business owners who share their space to keep your boxes until they're picked up. It's important to remember that the pick-up locations are just that—places to pick up your boxes.

The owners or employees cannot answer your questions or deal with any problems, timing of delivery, concerns, or comments, so if you could please help us out by directing all questions to our wonderful basket coordinator, we would sure appreciate it. If there are any problems please call Pauline at (775) 843-6402 or email her at:

greatbasinbasket@yahoo.com. Thank you for helping us out here. Keep this number during the duration of the program and, should you need any assistance, call Pauline.

5. If you can't pick up your box because you are on vacation or any other reason...ask a friend or family member to pick up for you. They will appreciate the treat. If you just plain forget because you had a disastrous day, let Pauline know. Food not picked up by closing time will be send to charity.

6. Please sign off on the list of names that you will find on the clipboard when picking up your box. If we have any problems, this is the only way we will know that you have received your box. On your first pick up of the season be sure to check your personal information on the list so that we get it right.

7. You may find an item that you don't care for (Hint...share with your neighbor!)

8. Be sure to wash your produce—sometimes you might find little hitch-hikers!

9. Please be patient for the first couple of weeks. It takes awhile to get all the kinks worked out.

Happy cooking!

Tina