

pedal people news – fall 2009



composting update

The Pedal People compost program is going strong. So far this year, we've diverted 2,700 cubic feet of compost (approximately 40 tons!) from the landfill and built great soil with it instead. If we pick up your trash, compost service is included in what you're already paying.



Newly constructed compost bins on their way to the farm

We provide free consultation to help you set up and maintain your own compost pile in your yard, or worm composting in an apartment. You can also hire us to help you build compost bins. Plastic compost bins are available for purchase at a discount from the City. Call Karen at the DPW at 587-1059.

three common recycling errors

- Make sure to remove and discard **all plastic caps**. Caps are made from a different kind of plastic and at this time are not recyclable here.
- **Styrofoam** (polystyrene) is also not recyclable in Northampton.
- **Wet paper and cardboard!** On rainy days, please keep paper dry in a closed container or under shelter. Need another recycling tote? Just let us know and we'll drop one off.

enterprise farm share delivery

Pedal People is partnering with Enterprise Farm (www.enterpriseproduce.com) to deliver farm shares in Northampton year-round. Each week they will pack a box at their farm in Whately, bring a truck-load of shares to Northampton, and then Pedal People will deliver it to your door.

How the farm share works

The farm share works like a CSA in that you pay upfront at the start of the season, or in two installments, and receive a weekly share of freshly picked fruits and veggies.

Unlike the typical CSA, Enterprise works with partner farms to include items in the share that they don't grow on their farm. The farm share includes a full variety of fruits and veggies, all year round. You can sign up for summer/fall, winter/spring or both.

The Winter/Spring share

In the winter/spring season (December through May) Enterprise Farm sources fresh-picked organic
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Delivering from the Tuesday Market in Northampton
(photo by Selena Dittberner)

(continued from front)

fruits and veggies through partnerships with small and organic farms, both locally and throughout the East Coast – our regional “foodshed.”

The share ranges from local storage crops, hothouse tomatoes and salad greens to Carolina sweet potatoes, Georgia strawberries, Florida avocados, greens and citrus – all from farms on the East Coast!

The cost including delivery is \$675 for a small share (10 lbs of produce per week), and \$925 for a large share (15 lbs) for 25 weeks of produce.

Enterprise Farm also offers a Summer/Fall share from June to November. For more details see their website at www.enterpriseproduce.com, call them at 413-665-8608, or contact us.

general delivery service

Within the next few months we'll be launching our general delivery service. Our goal is to enable any business in town to offer green delivery to their customers, as well as business-to-business delivery and anything else you need to move in Northampton that's 300 pounds or less. We try to start all our new ventures in the winter to make the rest of the year seem easy!

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mother herb diaper service

We are now delivering for a cloth diaper service. Angie Gregory, on Northern Ave., does the washing and all other parts of the business. Disposable diapers are one of the heaviest (and smelliest) things that Pedal People sends to the landfill. According to Angie, it is estimated that disposables use 20 times more raw materials and twice as much water in their manufacture as cloth diapers do over their usage. They also take 250 – 500 years to decompose. In terms of a baby's health, many studies show an increase in diaper rash and other health problems associated with wearing a non-breathable, moisture-trapping, chemical-laden plastic casing. So we're glad to be partnering with Mother Herb to provide a convenient option that's healthier for our community, and that supports a local business instead of manufacturers of disposables.



For more information check out her website at www.motherherbdiaperservice.com, call 413-586-1972, or contact us.

