

Employment at Canoe Creek Produce



About Us

Canoe Creek Produce is operated by Barbara Beard Kraus, assisted by her family: John, Peter, Tessa and Kevin. The farm lies 7 miles northeast of Decorah in Pleasant Township, in a valley carved out by Canoe Creek. Canoe Creek Produce began with eggs, as many things do, about 15 years ago and has grown to include a variety of vegetables, fruits and meats, all raised using chemical-free methods. Today, Barbara manages a flock of 300 egg layers as well as several acres of gardens and orchards and a flock of Katahdin sheep. Katahdins are hair sheep, raised exclusively for their meat, which is tender and wonderfully flavorful. At Canoe Creek Farm the chickens and sheep are raised “on grass” in an intensive grazing situation, they are moved to new pasture every few days from April to November.

Canoe Creek Produce provides vegetables, eggs and meat to Decorah restaurants, the Oneota Co-op, and the Winneshiek Farmer’s Market. Barbara is well known for the many varieties of greens (especially the over-wintered spinach) and edible flowers as well as peppers, garlic, and groundcherries.

The Internship

- We are looking for friendly, hard-working folks with an interest in market gardening. It's that simple. No special skills or experiences are required.
- Responsibilities will include garden work (planting, weeding, harvesting, etc.) as well as livestock chores. Don't feel daunted! We take plenty of breaks throughout the day, we make an effort to provide a variety of different tasks, and most afternoons we take a break to go swimming in Canoe Creek!
- We are happy to host interns for any length of time (one week to eight months) between March and October. Our goal is to have 2-3 workers throughout the growing season.
- Compensation is \$8-10/hr. Housing and a grocery stipend may be provided in exchange for 20hrs of work per week.

We strive to provide all of our interns with a fun, educational experience. If you are particularly interested in a certain aspect of our operation (e.g. grass-fed sheep or specialty greens) we will help you develop that interest. We also enjoy introducing our interns to some of the excellent organic farmers and goofy characters in the Decorah area. Northeast Iowa is a hotbed for sustainable agriculture, so there are plenty of connections to make and opportunities to explore. If you would like more information, give us a call or send us an email:

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