



The Crows' Courier

ISSUE NO. 9 | APRIL 2022

OUR PURPOSE

The mission of Crows' Feat Farm is to build community through a collaborative commitment to regenerative farming



WHAT'S GROWING ON

Seeds of Promise

Over the past several years, the Crows' Feat Farm team has seen an extraordinary response from our community to monthly working parties, member gatherings, local gardening projects, concerts, farm stand, dinners – and other ways to connect with neighbors, friends and farmers. One of permaculture's *core principles* is an awareness of the signals that nature and society are sending, which guide us to *observe and interact* in ways that improve our connection with nature, our communities, and ourselves. That means doing more of what works, and letting go of what doesn't.

With that in mind, we are focused on building opportunities for local connection and collaboration. A tangible demonstration of the power of community comes from three of our members – **Deb O'Day, Ken Couture and Yulia Rothenberg** – who have stepped up to the challenge. You can read more about them at the [Our Farmers](#) page on the Crows' Feat Farm website. Deb, Ken and Yulia will be working with other community members to assist Peter and Karen in developing Crows' Feat into a worker-owned cooperative farm.

Crows' Feat Farm
178 Drinkwater Road
Kensington, NH 03833
www.crowsfeatfarm.org
info@crowsfeatfarm.org

ANNOUNCING OUR 2022 FARM SHARE

*Thanks to all who supported Crows' Feat Farm
via our inaugural 2021 farm share!*

This year we're taking a slightly different approach with our share, allowing participants to "shop" at the farm stand every Saturday from *June 25th through September 24th*. Participants can choose a medium- or large-size basket to fill each time they visit, for a total of 12 (or 6, if you prefer) visits over the course of the summer. For more information, please check out the [Farm Share](#) page on the Crows' Feat website. If you'd like to participate, please respond no later than April 30, along with a list of your *five favorite produce items!*

The farm stand will open for the season on May 7th, when we will be selling greens, seedlings and flowers – just in time for Mother's Day. Come visit us at 180 Drinkwater Rd in Kensington. We'll be open Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm during the spring, with expanded hours as the season gets going.



CONCERTS & COOKING

We'll also be kicking off our third summer of music at the Farm, starting with [The Crab Shack Band](#) (led by Chris Avery, who once lived in this old house) on June 12th. Followed two weeks later by the [Soggy Po' Boys](#) on June 26th, Crows' Feat Farm favorite [Rodney Mashia](#) on July 10th, the *fabulous Trifecta* on July 24th and Ben Baldwin's [Big Note](#) band on August 21st. We will finish the season with [David Roth](#) – who penned this poultry-friendly [tribute to Crows' Feat Farm](#) – on September 3rd. We are delighted to welcome back old friends and favorites for our 2022 season, as these musicians too are part of our community. For more information and tickets, please visit our [Summer Concerts](#) page on the Crows' Feat website.

We will continue our farm dinner series in 2022, bringing the best of Crows' Feat Farm produce to our community. We'll have more information soon, so please stay tuned for details!

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

There's a lot happening at Crows' Feat this summer! On April 25th, two groups of students from Phillips Exeter Academy will visit the farm as part of their Earth Day activities. Under the guidance of [Sustainability Coordinator](#) Andrew McTammany, we'll educate students about soil health and its role in mitigating climate change. We'll also explain the permaculture approach to managing garden beds in order to maximize soil fertility and the nutritional value of what grows there. In late June, Crows' Feat will host a field trip for participants in the [Kensington Summer Camp](#), followed by another camp visit toward the end of the summer. That sequence will allow kids to experience the variety of seasonal activities on a farm, from planting to weeding to harvesting – and healthy eating!

[Taking Root at Crows' Feat](#) is an alternative education program centered around mindfulness, environmental stewardship and community – anchored in Crows' Feat's commitment to regenerative farming. Ample research has demonstrated the myriad benefits to mind and body of time spent in the stillness and wildness outdoors, listening to and learning from nature. Portsmouth Middle School science teacher Kaitlin Muller-Cusack will lead Taking Root's inaugural session during the week of July 11th. Friends of the farm will receive a \$30 discount off the regular camp fee, so sign up now!

Last but not least, we are welcoming new community gardeners to Crows' Feat Farm, who will work alongside the Kensington Congregational Church's giving garden.

COME GROW WITH US!

First Saturday Work Parties

May 7th
June 4th
July 2nd

From 9 am - noon, followed by a farm lunch!

On the first Saturday of every month, we gather as a community to perform the work of this farm that none of us can do alone. On New Year's Day we traveled to the beach to gather seaweed for our garden beds and enjoyed a tailgate picnic afterwards. In March we started hundreds of seeds together while learning the rationale and method for building soil blocks. Last weekend we educated ourselves about the principles of time banking and ways to lend each other support in times of challenge and change. We are so appreciative of all our community members, who are bringing their time, talents and friendship to make Crows' Feat Farm a success!

