



Sustainability & Food Systems

Updated Mission Statement

Seton Harvest, a ministry of the Daughters of Charity, promotes care of the environment by growing food naturally, shares produce with local shareholders and people in need, and provides educational opportunities for sustainable living.

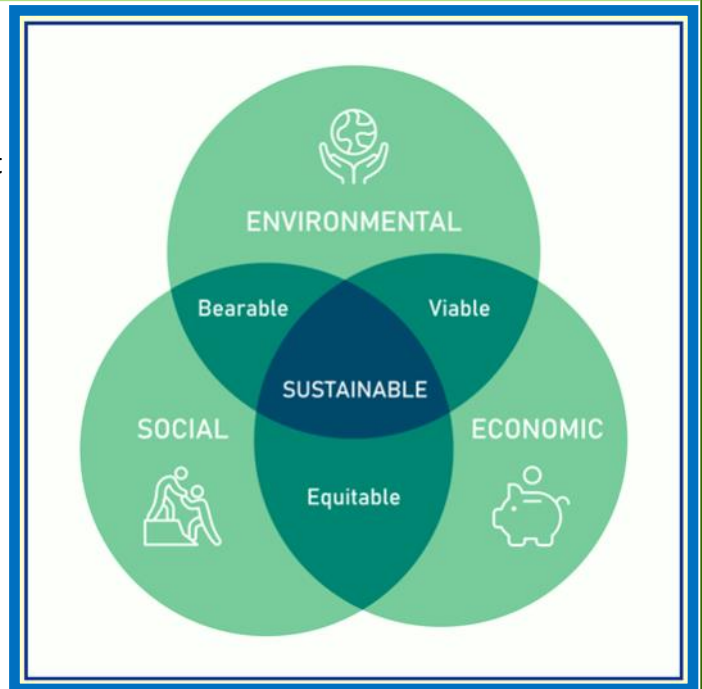
In early 2022, the Seton Harvest Board of Directors and Daughters of Charity Ministries approved a slightly newer mission statement for Seton Harvest. The change came about during several weeks of strategic planning and a vision to broaden the scope of our educational programs from sustainable agriculture to sustainable *living*. With this goal in mind, we are moving ahead to develop workshops and experiences on the farm that will engage participants of all ages in a deeper understanding of what it means to live a sustainable lifestyle. Inspiration for the activities, for what we are calling the Sustainable Living Program, will be drawn from the encyclical of Pope Francis – *Laudato Si'*: On Care for Our Common Home, Permaculture, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Amy Rhodes will serve as manager of the program in collaboration with Farmer Joe and Community Outreach Manager, Julie Dietz.

Being conscious of where and how your food is produced is an important component of a sustainable lifestyle. Sustainable food systems use practices that are environmentally and economically viable, such as building and replenishing soil fertility, humane animal management, and sound business planning.

“We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.” Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, #14.

Sustainable food systems are socially just. Farm employees work in safe (chemically non-toxic), respectful environments and are compensated with fair and reasonable wages. Socially just, sustainable food systems also offer produce at fair market prices and assist the poor in having access to healthy, nutrient dense food.

Supporting community supported agriculture demonstrates a commitment to creating a healthier, sustainable world. The environmental, economic, and social impacts of our consumer choices can be reviewed in all aspects of our life. We can all take steps to improve, seek balance, and encourage others to do the same. As a shareholder or supporter of Seton Harvest, you're likely already aware of what it means to be a responsible consumer. In what aspects of your lifestyle, other than food choices, do you strive to be more sustainable?



Reminders

April 1st — Shares open to the general public.

May 1st — Final payments are due.

May 21st & 24th — First Pickup Days (Subject to Change)