# FOR ORGANIC PRODUCE

Picking Smart, Healthy & Sustainability Choices



#### HEALTH BENEFITS OF ORGANIC PRODUCE

Higher Antioxidant Levels: Organic fruits and vegetables have been shown to contain more antioxidants, which help protect against diseases and aging.



Organic apples have more health promoting antioxidants than conventional apples, including 66% more flavonols and 31% more phenolic acids.



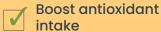
Compared to conventional, <u>organic onions</u> also contain higher levels of a broad spectrum of antioxidants including total phenol, total flavonoid, ascorbic acid and quercetin-3-glucoside.

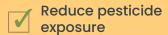


Antioxidants <u>extend shelf life</u> by slowing the rate at which fruit ages after harvest, keeping produce fresher for longer.



Snack on organically grown fruits and veggies for a natural antioxidant boost!





Protect pollinators

Improve biodiversity

Fight climate change

Support cleaner water





### **Reduced Pesticide Exposure**

Systemic pesticides cannot be washed off because they are absorbed into plant tissues. These toxins are not allowed in organic farming, minimizing pesticide exposure for both consumers and farmers.

- Research shows that people are exposed to pesticides
  when they eat contaminated food. One study found
  17 different pesticides in people's systems, several
  of which are correlated with negative health outcomes.
  After only a few days of switching to an organic diet,
  those pesticides levels dropped.
- <u>Pregnant individuals</u> who consume organic produce reduce pesticide-related developmental risks for their babies.
- Children exposed to pesticides have higher incidence of <u>respiratory issues</u> and <u>learning deficits</u> compared to non-agricultural children.
- Pesticide exposure is linked to <u>faster progression of</u> <u>Parkinson's disease</u> in people living near treated fields.



#### ORGANIC FARMING SUPPORTS THE ENVIRONMENT & LOCAL ECOSYSTEMS



#### **Cleaner Water**

Organic practices <u>protect our</u> <u>drinking water</u> by preventing contamination from toxic pesticides and fertilizers.



## Resilience Against Extreme Weather

Organic farming improves important soil properties that mitigate the effects of droughts and floods.



#### **Promotes Natural Resources**

Organic farms support beneficial biodiversity like birds, <u>natural</u> <u>enemies to pests</u>, and healthy soil microbiomes.



#### **Protects Pollingtors**

It is estimated that 1 in 3 bites of food relies on pollinators. Organic farming protects pollinators by preventing harmful chemical sprays.



Choosing organic produce is a simple way to invest in your health, protect the environment, and support sustainable farming practices.

