

The Chaga Co-op

Co-operative Chaga Harvester Agreement

This agreement establishes a cooperative relationship between the harvester and the co-op business. This entitles the harvester to a majority share of the wholesale price. By signing on, the harvester becomes entitled to borrowing and using shared equipment and resources. This agreement is for Chaga in particular, while other foraged goods will require a separate agreement with separate rates. Mother nature provides significant opportunities to individuals willing to put in solid work hours to achieve their goals. This will reward anyone with ambition. The Chaga Co-op provides an ethical network to reap those rewards together while providing a stable base of operations that can grow and host even more health-oriented ambitious projects. This network is for individuals who are interested in sharing health and knowledge, so if you are interested in this agreement for monetary purposes only, we are not interested in working with you. Intention goes a long way in the healing process, and begins with the harvester. Consider yourself now an integral part of a network of medicine-makers and healers, so be sure to offer your gratitude and respect to each tree you harvest from. Leave some chaga for regrowth, and do not harvest chaga smaller than a grapefruit.

The Harvester agrees to:

1. Keep track of borrowed equipment and report breakages or losses.
2. Bring freshly harvested chaga for processing within 24 hours or as soon as possible, as Chaga will mold quickly if not processed and dried immediately. It must be kept in a fairly clean container like a plastic tub to prevent contamination.
3. If processing chaga yourself, remove all bark and crush it into about 2-inch chunks. We cannot accept contaminated or moldy chaga, so we will inspect it upon submission.
4. Report any assistance needed with expenses.
5. Practice leave no trace, reduce your impact on the forest as much as possible.
6. Harvest only in approved areas like state forests with a permit, and permitted private lands.
7. Be entirely responsible for their own safety and liability.
8. Be entirely responsible for filing their own taxes.

The Co-op agrees to:

1. Prioritize payment of harvesters either on submission of chaga or on sale.
2. Inform harvesters of the minimum rate they will be getting - if known - before harvesting.
3. Provide receipts of chaga submitted, with amount paid or owed at time of submission.
4. Issue a 1099 tax form if paying harvester more than \$600 within a single tax year.

Harvester Rates:

1. If submitting freshly harvested, unprocessed chaga, the harvester is entitled to **33%** of the current wholesale price per pound. The chaga loses about 50% of its weight when processed and dried due to the water weight and lost product. This works out to the harvester getting a minimum of 50% of the actual wholesale price per pound, with the remainder paying for processing (25%), and the company (25%). This rate may increase as processing become more efficient.
2. If submitting dried & unprocessed chaga, the harvester is entitled to **66%** of the current wholesale price per pound.
3. If submitting dried chaga, processed into about 2-inch chunks with no bark or discernable mold, the harvester is entitled to **75%** of the current wholesale price per pound, with the remaining **25%** to the company.

Wholesale Price per Lb	Fresh Harvester Cut per Lb	Dry Harvester Cut per Lb	Dried & Processed Harvester Cut per Lb	Company Cut per Lb
\$10	\$3.3	\$6.6	\$7.5	\$2.5
\$18	\$6	\$12	\$13.5	\$4.5
\$20	\$6.6	\$13.3	\$15	\$5
\$30	\$10	\$20	\$22.5	\$7.5

\$40	\$13.3	\$26.6	\$30	\$10
\$50	\$16.5	\$23	\$37.5	\$12.5
\$60	\$20	\$40	\$45	\$15

Member Name: _____

Harvester Name: _____

Member Signature: _____

Harvester Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____