

### **Reheating Instructions:**

If reheating the entire casserole, place in the oven at 375 degrees F for 30-35 minutes or until it is 165 degrees in the center.

It can also be portioned out cold and then reheated in the microwave as individual portions. **DO NOT PUT CASSEROLE PAN IN THE MICROWAVE.** 

# **Taco Pasta Casserole**

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 2 cups dry elbow macaroni
- 2 cups water + ½ cup water (for seasoning the taco meat)
- 1 large green or red pepper, diced
- ⅔ cups salsa
- 1 (15oz.) can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 (15 oz.) can diced tomatoes
- 1 cup shredded Mexican cheddar cheese, divided
- 2 Tablespoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 1/2 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- \*Top with shredded lettuce, fresh tomatoes, and black olives (optional)

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Preheat the oven to 375°F and spray a 9×13-in. casserole dish with nonstick cooking spray.
- 2. Place ground beef in a frying pan and cook over medium/high heat until fully cooked. Drain the excess fat from the beef.
- 3. In a small bowl, mix chili powder, garlic powder, cumin and salt. Sprinkle seasoning over ground beef. Add ½ cup water. Bring to a boil. Simmer for 5 minutes.
- 4. Pour the dry macaroni in the bottom of the casserole pan and cover with the two cups of water.
- 5. Transfer the cooked meat into the casserole dish on top of the noodles. Layer the rest of the ingredients (only 1/2 cup of the cheese) into the casserole dish and mix to combine.
- 6. Bake, covered, at 375°F for 45 minutes or until the pasta is fully cooked. Remove from the oven, sprinkle the remaining ½ cup of cheese on top, and let sit for 10 minutes.
- 7. Top with fresh tomato, lettuce, black olives, or even avocado (optional). Enjoy!

## **CONVIVIUM URBAN FARMSTEAD**

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