



# Gleaning FAQS



Gleaning is the task of collecting excess produce from farms and distributing that produce to food pantries, food distribution sites, and other community organizations.

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## **Why do farmers have leftover produce in their fields?**

There are a few reasons for this. Labor challenges, like shortages, may push farms to prioritize other crops or tasks. Environmental circumstances that are out of farmers control may cause there to be too much of the same produce item, with no market for it. Additionally, farmers may not be able to sell certain produce for aesthetic reasons - “seconds” are perfectly good to eat, but may not meet the aesthetic standard of customers.

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## **Where does the gleaned food go after it is collected?**

We have a variety of partners, including: food pantries, food distribution sites, community & senior housing sites, healthcare facilities & clinics, and other community partners.

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## **What type of work do volunteers do?**

Our volunteer opportunities range from harvesting produce in the fields, to distributing produce to our partner sites, to helping out at fundraising and tabling events.

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## **When is the gleaning season?**

Our gleaning season runs from June through November, though sometimes we do have volunteer opportunities year-round, like helping at events.

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## **Do you accept groups for a gleaning day?**

Yes! We will happily organize a group gleaning day that could be a regular volunteer activity or a one-time event.

