



"Sharing your garden bounty with Neighbors in Need"

Backyard Gardeners vs Hunger in America

No one needs to tell you, the people who operate food pantries, how difficult it is to meet the needs of your community today.

While you rely on regional food banks, government programs, local food stores and community generosity to help you keep your shelves stocked, in most cases, your clients rarely if ever find fresh produce available.

This is the challenge food pantries and their clients face nationwide.

America's backyard gardeners often face a wholly different challenge.

For many, it can feel like forever while they wait for their garden to start producing tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, squash, etc. But once they start harvesting their crops, it comes with a vengeance.

The typical backyard gardener will consume as much of their harvest as possible, share some with their friends and neighbors, can, preserve or pickle some, and yet have more to harvest.

Despite the fact that an estimated 49 million Americans (18% of the population) are hungry and rely on local food pantries, many gardeners end up leaving a significant portion of their crop unharvested in their garden.

These gardeners would be happy to share some of their harvest with a nearby food pantry but usually don't because the neighborhood pantries are often hard to find - many not having a web site or even a phone number.

It does not have to be this way.

AmpleHarvest.org^(SM)

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To address this problem, the AmpleHarvest.org^(SM) Campaign was established in 2009 with the goal of enabling Americas backyard gardeners to quickly find local food pantries in need of fresh produce.

AmpleHarvest.org a grass roots non-profit campaign and is **absolutely free** - there are no costs to your pantry nor the gardener.

Registering your pantry is quick and simple. Just visit www.AmpleHarvest.org and click on the *Register A Food Pantry* button to enter the information about your pantry - name, address, hours, an optional photograph, as well as additional information you might want to include (such as a listing of store bought items your pantry urgently needs). Your pantry does **not** need to have Internet access to benefit from AmpleHarvest.org.

Once registered, backyard gardeners (using the Internet or our free iPhone app) wishing to donate fresh produce (or store bought items!) will be able to quickly find your pantry, contact information and the days and hours donations will be accepted. It also displays a map and optional driving instructions.

Your pantry does not need refrigerated storage to receive locally grown produce. Simply list the day[s] of the week and hours gardeners should deliver their crops and invite your clients come later that same day or the next day to get their garden fresh produce.

Having as many food pantries as possible registered on AmpleHarvest.org will help diminish hunger in America. You can help us help you by sharing this brochure with other nearby pantries/agencies, or encouraging them to visit www.AmpleHarvest.org.

An estimated 100 billion pounds of food - enough to totally eliminate hunger in this country, is thrown away annually.

It does not have to be this way.