

New Farm to Foodshelf Grant: YOUR EXCESS CROPS CAN FEED HUNGRY MINNESOTANS

Farmers, if you find yourself at harvest time with excess produce that will go unharvested or be discarded, please consider donating your surplus produce crops to help feed those in need in your own community.

It's easy to do.

The six Feeding America food banks serving Minnesota have experience capturing such surplus through their collective ShareFresh MN program which distributes millions of pounds of surplus produce crops each year to food shelves and other meal programs across the state, thanks to generous farmers.

Now, there is a new reason to consider participation, made possible through the "Farm to Foodshelf" grant - a new \$2 million appropriation funded by the Minnesota Legislature, to help agricultural producers and processors offset the cost to harvest and package their donated fruits and vegetables that would otherwise go unharvested or be discarded.

You Can Make a Big Difference to Seniors, Children and Working Families!

Every year, more than 620,000 Minnesotans are at risk of hunger—that's 1 in 10 of us. At the same time, more than 200 million pounds of edible Minnesota crops go unharvested or unsold due to excess capacity—leaving a surplus of fresh produce going to waste. Together, we can put this nutritious food to work to help alleviate hunger and provide a bridge to stability for our neighbors who need a hand during tough times.

Program Details

Minnesota agricultural producers or processors using Minnesota-grown crops may donate through this program. Edible and commonly used produce, such as tomatoes, onions, potatoes, watermelons, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrots, squash, sweet corn and others are welcome. Of course, food must meet safety standards and be fit to eat.

Interested in Learning More? Consider Donating!

Please call (877) 547-0245, email produce@2harvest.org or visit harvesttoendhungermn.org/share_fresh_mn.html.

Learn more about reimbursements for harvest and packaging for transfer, minimum donation amounts and more. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture is the program's fiscal agent. Grants are administered by Second Harvest Heartland, on behalf of the six Feeding America food banks serving Minnesota.



Did you know that about 50% of those who regularly miss meals in our state come from rural and greater Minnesota?



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