



HOSTING A GLEAN - THE DETAILS

What you need to know about hosting a glean in your fields, orchards, or backyard trees

Info about the program: The Small Potatoes Gleaning Project is a program of the **Bellingham Food Bank** focused on getting our community more access to local and fresh foods while helping our farms and neighbors. Our volunteers harvest thousands of pounds of produce each season from local farms, orchards, and backyard trees to feed families in need across Whatcom County.

We are here to help you get that surplus crop out of the field, clean-out a row as the season ends, or pick loaded fruit trees, and get that food to people in your community!

How it works:

- You **contact** our gleaning coordinator (phone or email) with information about the crop you want harvested (quantity, quality, location, etc.). Together we **schedule a day and time to glean**. We also like to plan a visit before the glean, to get a better idea of what we need, parking, how many volunteers to bring etc.
- On gleaning day, we arrive with the necessary harvest tools, parking signs, volunteers, crates, and our box truck.
- We **harvest your crop** and transport it back to the Bellingham Food Bank where it will be stored, distributed, or shared with our partner food programs.
- You receive a **thank you/tax receipt** at the end of the season with the weight of your donation and details about the gleaning season!

What is gleaning? *The act of harvesting leftover, extra, or surplus produce from farm fields and orchards. Giving a home to produce that would otherwise not be harvested and eaten!*

*Our volunteers gleaned over **80,000 lbs** of produce in 2023!*

