



Gleaning

Thank you for your interest in supporting The Food Group. We cannot have any significant impact without support from people like you.

Gleaning is the act of harvesting excess produce that would otherwise go to waste. TFG redistributes produce gleaned to under-resourced food access partners.

*Note this program has replaced Fruits of the City. If you are a gardener or farmer with excess produce, please see our “Growers” guide at thefoodgroupmn.org/volunteer

Gleaning is essential to strengthening communities for numerous reasons, including providing increased access to fresh fruits and vegetables, reducing food waste, and ensuring farmers have an outlet for all of their produce. Find out more about the history and importance of gleaning [here](#).

Volunteer to Glean

Join The Glean Team as we harvest excess produce from the fields at various farms and orchards across the metro area. The Glean Team is a group of volunteers led by farm-experienced TFG staff. We'll do activities like harvesting (gleaning), washing, and/or packing produce.

TFG staff will cover safety, sanitation and harvesting techniques before the session. A summary of farm safety and etiquette is available through the [National Gleaning Project](#) (guide on the last 2 pages).

Find opportunities on our [VolunteerHub page](#).

Timing

- Thursdays, June-October (weather pending)
- 10 am – 1 pm (3 hours)

Attendees

- Anyone 18 and over is welcome
- No experience required
- We ask that you come with respect for farmers, their land, and the dignified redistribution of produce

Location



- Gleaning site locations vary. We are typically no more than a 1 hour drive from TFG New Hope office (e.g. Northfield, Watertown, West St Paul).
- Some locations are planned weeks in advance, however due to the nature of produce production, some locations may be announced with as little as one week's notice.
- Carpooling is recommended to save on gas, emissions, and limited parking.

Groups

We love volunteer groups! There is a max of 10 volunteers per gleaning shift. Please view [group instructions](#) for details on how to register. Groups larger than 10, please connect with Marena.