

## JOIN US: *Volunteer!*

The Gleaning Project is only as strong as the support of its volunteers. The more people willing to help, the more produce we can collect and rescue.



### **We need your help!**

No prior experience in gardening or farming is necessary! Most volunteers are needed during peak farming seasons (April through November).

If you have a desire to work outside and get dirty, or are interested in helping feed the hungry — this is the project for you!

The Gleaning Project represents the efforts of:

Toledo Seagate Food Bank  
[www.toledoseagatefoodbank.org](http://www.toledoseagatefoodbank.org)

Center for Innovative  
Food Technology  
[www.cift.esic.org](http://www.cift.esic.org)

Helping Hands of St. Louis  
[www.helpinghandstoledo.org](http://www.helpinghandstoledo.org)

Society of St. Andrew  
[www.endhunger.org](http://www.endhunger.org)

Maumee Watershed District  
United Methodist Churches  
[www.maumeewatershed.org](http://www.maumeewatershed.org)

Toledo Area Ministries  
[www.tamohio.org](http://www.tamohio.org)

Knights of Columbus at  
St. Richard Catholic Community  
[www.saintrichard.org](http://www.saintrichard.org)



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Northwest Ohio's

## GLEANING PROJECT



*“Those who can, do.  
Those who can  
do more, volunteer.”*

- Author unknown

*The mission is to give the hungry access to fresh, local produce.*



### **Gleaning does work!**

The total gleaned last year was more than 700,000 pounds. The goal this year is 1,000,000 pounds of fresh, local produce.

### **What is Gleaning?**

Gleaning dates back to the Biblical times when the poverty-stricken were allowed to go into fields after the harvest and gather for themselves what was left behind. In the 21st century, the practice hasn't changed — just the people who do it. Gleaning volunteers are students, senior citizens, businesspeople, stay-at-home parents and many other individuals who visit area farm fields and orchards to collect excess produce so it can be distributed through the help of the Toledo Seagate Food Bank to area agencies, food pantries and soup kitchens who will feed the hungry throughout northwest Ohio.

### **Where do we Glean?**

Many farmers throughout the 18 counties that make up northwest Ohio call the *gleaning project manager*, and establish days when volunteers can pick produce from the fields. Farmers call for volunteers when they are done with mechanically-harvested fields and there is quality produce remaining. Some farmers have produce left from their time at market and need someone to pick up boxed fruits and vegetables.

### **When does it Begin?**

Gleaning can start as early as June and end around Thanksgiving. Traditionally early fall is the busiest time for harvest and gleaning. Farmers often welcome those who wish to help clean their fields.



Volunteers who work the fields are notified through e-mail which includes maps, times, addresses and other information. Volunteers are under no obligation to come, but many find it a great way to make friends and help the hungry.

**More information on gleaning and the Grow a Row Project** are available at:

[www.ourcityinagarden.org](http://www.ourcityinagarden.org)  
[www.cift.eisc.org](http://www.cift.eisc.org)