



City Harvest



**U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency**

**Food Recovery Challenge (FRC)
Summit**

February 6, 2013

CITY HARVEST MISSION

City Harvest exists to end hunger in communities throughout New York City. We do this through food rescue and distribution, education, and other practical, innovative solutions.

RESCUING
FOOD FOR
NEW YORK'S
HUNGRY

**CITY
HARVEST**

cityharvest.org



HOW CITY HARVEST GOT STARTED

It all started with an order of potato skins!

A volunteer at a soup kitchen stopped in a restaurant across the street for a drink and an order of potato skins. What, she wondered, happened to the insides of those potatoes? She found her way back to the kitchen, and asked the chef. He told her that every morning the kitchen threw away what it couldn't use. The next morning, thirty gallons of potatoes found their way from the restaurant to the soup kitchen and into the soup.

This idea led to the creation of City Harvest in 1982.

RESCUING
FOOD FOR
NEW YORK'S
HUNGRY

**CITY
HARVEST**

cityharvest.org



WHERE DOES THE FOOD COME FROM?

- Supermarkets
- Manufacturers and Wholesalers
- Restaurants/Hotels
- Greenmarkets and Farms
- Corporate Cafeterias
- Food Drives
- Affiliate Food Banks



WHERE DOES THE FOOD GO?

- Senior Centers
- Soup Kitchens
- Women's Shelters
- Homeless Shelters
- Food Pantries
- AIDS care providers
- Children's daycare centers



FOOD SAFETY AND LIABILITY

There is no danger in donating food to City Harvest. Both the federal government and New York State have laws protecting donors from liability. City Harvest asks all of its recipients to sign an agreement accepting food “as is” which further limits liability. City Harvest recommends consulting legal counsel for detailed information.

Food donors are protected under the following laws:

Federal Law: The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act

New York State Law: Enacted in 1981, Article 4-D, Section 71-2

71-Z Liability for canned, perishable food or farm products distributed free of charge

City Harvest Practices Food Safety

At City Harvest we take our responsibility to you and the people we serve very seriously. Donating food to City Harvest isn't only smart, it's safe.

- All of our drivers are trained to handle food safely.
- Our trucks are refrigerated to keep food at safe temperatures.
- We train all recipient agencies in safe food preparation and handling.
- Agency kitchens are evaluated for their food safety practices.
- City Harvest's staff includes a registered dietitian and professional chef who make food safety a paramount concern.



WHAT KINDS OF FOOD CAN YOU DONATE?

- **Whole fresh produce** without significant decay.
- **Chopped fresh produce** in packed separately in food-grade packaging.
- **Prepared foods** chilled to 40°F that have not been served or placed on a buffet.
- **Chilled perishable packaged foods** such as juice and cheese in their original packaging.
- **Meat, poultry, fish** chilled to 40°F or frozen.
- **Dairy products** 40°F to expiration date.
- **Frozen foods** in original packaging.
- **Baked goods** (day-old bread, bagels, and other bakery items).
- **Canned and packaged** goods in original packaging.



CITY HARVEST IS UNABLE TO ACCEPT FOODS THAT:

- Have been served or put on a buffet table.
- Have been previously reheated.
- Were not kept at the appropriate temperature per the *City Harvest Donation Guidelines* for more than 2 hours.
- Have damaged or compromised packaging, resulting in the loss of a sanitary barrier.
- Contain alcohol.
- Have significant decay.
- Have severe freezer burn.
- Are intended for raw consumption (sushi or seafood).
- Are open, punctured, bulging or seriously damaged (canned goods).
- Are home canned or home jarred products.

Discarding food that does not meet the above criteria is not a waste; you are actually protecting the at-risk hunger community that we help feed.



DELIVERING CHANGE

- 21 Trucks
 - 3 – 24 ft. Cubic Trucks
 - 8 – 15 ft. Cubic Trucks
 - 1 – Tractor Trailer
 - 6 – Hybrid Trucks (holds 8,200lbs. each)
 - 3 – CDL Trucks (holds 16,000lbs. each)
- 3 cargo bikes
 - Holds 500lbs. each



RESCUING
FOOD FOR
NEW YORK'S
HUNGRY

**CITY
HARVEST**

cityharvest.org



CITY HARVEST PROGRAMS

- Nutrition Education
- Healthy Neighborhoods
- Mobile Markets
 - Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn
 - Melrose, The Bronx
 - Stapleton, Staten Island
 - Washington Heights/Inwood



RESCUING
FOOD FOR
NEW YORK'S
HUNGRY

**CITY
HARVEST**

cityharvest.org



BENEFITS OF BECOMING A FOOD DONOR

- Potential tax deduction
- Reduced disposal fees
- Reduce “dumpster divers”

RESCUING
FOOD FOR
NEW YORK'S
HUNGRY

**CITY
HARVEST**

cityharvest.org



DONOR PROVISIONS

CITY HARVEST WILL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Food safe bags and trays
- Receipt for every donation
- A quarterly letter stating the pounds received
- * OTHER BENEFITS:
 - Annual City Harvest Certificate
 - Listing on City Harvest Website
 - Listing in City Harvest Restaurant Guide
 - Listing in City Harvest Annual Report

*certain criteria applies



BECOMING A FOOD DONOR

- Call 646.412.0758
- 50lb. minimum for pick up
- City Harvest provides food safe bags and tins
- City Harvest will arrange for a time to meet and train your staff on donation procedures



THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS?

Contact: Lisa Sposato

Associate Director, Food Sourcing

City Harvest, Inc.

6 East 32nd Street, 5th Floor

New York, NY 10016

Phone: 646.412.0751

Fax: 646.412.0764

www.cityharvest.org

RESCUING
FOOD FOR
NEW YORK'S
HUNGRY

**CITY
HARVEST**

cityharvest.org

