



Backyard Gardeners vs Hunger in America

No one needs to tell you, the people who operate food pantries, how difficult it is to meet the needs of your community today. This is the challenge food pantries and their clients face nationwide.

America's backyard gardeners often face a wholly different challenge. For many, it can feel like forever while they wait for their garden to start producing tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, squash, etc. But once they start harvesting their crops, it comes with a vengeance.

These gardeners would be happy to share some of their harvest with a nearby food pantry but usually don't because the neighborhood pantries are often hard to find - many not having a web site or even a phone number. It does not have to be this way.

To address this problem, the AmpleHarvest.org^(SM) campaign has been established with the goal of enabling Americas backyard gardeners to quickly find local food pantries in need of fresh produce.

Registering your pantry is quick, simple and **free**. Just visit www.AmpleHarvest.org/reg-pantry.php to enter the name, address, phone and other optional information about your pantry. The site also accepts additional text you might want to include - such as requesting store bought items! You can even supply a digital photograph of your pantry to make it easier to find.

Once your pantry is registered, backyard gardeners wishing to donate fresh produce will be able to quickly find your pantry. It can even display a map and optional driving instructions.

Don't worry if your pantry does not have refrigerated storage. Simply list the day[s] of the week and hours gardeners should deliver their crops and invite your clients come later that same day to get their garden fresh produce.

The AmpleHarvest.org campaign is a grass roots effort operating under a 501(3)(c) sustainability organization. Everyone involved has donated their time and talent. There are no fees when your pantry registers on the web site, nor when a gardener uses it.

Having as many food pantries as possible registered on AmpleHarvest.org will help diminish hunger in America. You can help us help you telling other nearby pantries/agencies, as well as gardeners, garden stores, garden clubs, etc. about www.AmpleHarvest.org.

An estimated 100 billion pounds of food - enough to totally eliminate hunger in this country, is thrown away annually. It does not have to be this way.