

# Healthy Harvest Food Bank Agricultural Program

Thank you for your interest in Healthy Harvest Food Bank's agricultural program. This program is a vital component of our goal to provide healthy, nutritious food to families in need in our local region as well as across the state of Virginia.

Much of the agricultural program takes place in Westmoreland and Lancaster Counties. However, we also glean and harvest in Northumberland, King and Queen and King William Counties. The farmers and their families have graciously opened their farms to us, and we work hard to be respectful of their fields.

All volunteers must sign a release form at the beginning of each year, prior to gleaning and harvesting in the fields. Please give your signed release to the field contact on the first day you volunteer.

In the event your group needs to cancel for any reason, please contact us as soon as possible, preferably a minimum of 2 days prior to the gleaning and harvesting event.

In case of severe weather or other emergency, we will cancel gleaning the night before the event is scheduled.

The point of contact the night before and the day of the gleaning and harvesting event will be **Craig Hazzard (757) 646-3735**. We will confirm the group leader with you prior to the event date.

After a short briefing about HHFB and the gleaning and harvesting process, the group will move to the field. Summer gleaning and harvesting take place between 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and fall gleaning from 9:00 a.m. to noon. **Please arrive by 7:45 a.m. summer/8:45 a.m. fall. For those gleaning for the first time please arrive by 7:30 a.m. summer/8:30 a.m. fall.** (Late arrivals are responsible to the volunteer's group leader – it is important we start early to stay ahead of the heat during the summer months).



## What HHFB will provide:

Drinking Water, Basic First Aid Supplies, Gleaning Backpacks or Side packs, Small Gleaning Machetes (broccoli only), Crates (fall produce at Parker Farms) and Porta-John.

## What volunteers should bring:

Sturdy boots/shoes (that can get muddy/dirty), Bandanas, Hat (help protect from the sun), Sunscreen, Gloves (for fall produce at Parker Farms), Snacks and additional water/drinks if desired.

Summer clothing should be cool, cargo shorts and short sleeve shirts. Fall clothing should be warm.

Stay hydrated – drink plenty of water prior and during gleaning event. Consider watering down hats and/or bandanas.