



Hunger is Unacceptable

## SMALL POTATOES GLEANING PROJECT

### ***Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)***

#### **What should I wear?**

Gleaning takes place in all kinds of weather, so sturdy closed-toed shoes/boots and clothes that can get muddy are always a good idea. You'll want to be able to bend, lift, walk, and protect your skin from sun exposure. You'll also want to be comfortable in summer heat. Hats are great for rain or shine. It's a fine balance, but having more clothes than you need is a good idea. Raingear is a must on days when the forecast is uncertain or if crops are likely to be wet. Let's be honest, raingear is almost always a good idea!

#### **What should I Bring?**

Sunscreen; water or snacks for when you get thirsty and hungry; medications. If you have allergies to any kind of plants or insect bites, please let the project coordinator know and make sure to bring along any medication that you will need in case of an allergic reaction. *This can be a life or death situation in the field, since we are often far away from medical service.* If you have other pertinent health conditions, please inform the project coordinator in advance.

#### **Will there be bathrooms at the farm/home?**

Bathrooms are not usually available at gleaning sites, so please plan accordingly.

#### **May I bring my children with me?**

Children are welcome at some, but not all, gleans. Please double check the glean announcement before bringing any children under the age of 16. All children must be under the supervision of a parent or guardian at all times. This protects their safety and enhances their involvement in the gleaning activity while minimizing the possibility of getting injured or unintentionally causing damage to crops or farm equipment.

#### **May I bring friends along who want to help?**

Yes you may, but we do need to know how many people will be attending each glean so that we can plan numbers accordingly. When you sign up to attend a glean, you will be able to communicate how many people will be attending (including yourself). This is important. When your friends arrive at the glean, we'll be able to get them signed up as a record of attendance and ask them if they'd like to receive gleaning notifications for future gleaning events.

**Will I get a break during the two-hour glean?**

Absolutely! While we do not usually take formal breaks, we want you to feel comfortable taking a breather whenever you need one. Gleaning can be hot and physically strenuous work, and we aren't running a work camp. Please note that smoking is not allowed at any time on the glean site. This is out of respect for our hosts.

**May I take produce home with me?**

Yes, you are more than welcome to take home produce that you and your family or household will be able to use. We are very fortunate never to have been in a situation where we need to quantify what percentage of any harvest goes home to volunteers. Bringing your own bag is a good idea since we do not have extra containers.

**Am I covered by insurance if I have an accident at a farm or home?**

Yes, Bellingham Food Bank has liability insurance that covers all volunteers who are registered for the event once they arrive at a glean. We take safety very seriously, and we hope you do as well.

**Is it ok for me to bring my pet?**

Unfortunately, no. Pets and farms can be a bad combination. If you need to bring along your pet in order to be able to attend a glean event, please leave them in the car. You are, of course, welcome to check on them throughout the glean.

**Thanks for your help with this great work! It wouldn't happen without you.**