

DONATING PRODUCE OR FLOWERS

Here are a few ideas on how to donate produce or flowers from your garden to those in need.

- There are many food shelves throughout the Twin Cities and Minnesota that will take extra garden produce. You can search for food shelves in Minnesota here: www.hungersolutions.org
- Contact your local food shelf to find out what their needs are. Consider the shelf life of different foods and donate accordingly.
- If you provide food to a food shelf, include fliers about your garden with your donation letting people know how to get their own plots in your garden.
- Donate bouquets of flowers to local organizations that serve the community.
- Participate in Plant a Row for the Hungry: <http://www.gardenwriters.org/gwa.php?p=par/index.html>
- Share extra food with people in the neighborhood, for example, by having a meal in the garden made with garden produce.
- Set up a "free table" for extra produce.
- Designate a plot or areas of the garden that can be harvested by any visitor; put up signs about what is pickable and how to harvest.
- Provide discounted plots for people who can't afford the regular garden fee. Solicit seed donations from other community gardeners or area stores so you can provide free seeds to these garden members.

Don't forget!

- ✓ Have new projects decided upon by the group, including whether or not to introduce a new feature and what it will look like.
- ✓ Keep it simple and easy to maintain in terms of labor, cost and replacement of parts.
- ✓ Don't overdesign a project or there is a greater risk that it won't succeed.

Adapted from Gardening Matters & the GardenWorks Community Garden Food Assistance Survey results. 5/21/09