



Gleaning Program Volunteer Packet

What is Gleaning?

CROS Gleaning is a program of CROS Ministries, in partnership with area Food Banks and other food distribution agencies in Palm Beach and Martin Counties. It is a food recovery strategy that allows produce that is below top market grade or unmarketable, but equally nutritious and beneficial to be harvested and distributed to the food insecure of Palm Beach and Martin Counties instead of being plowed back into the soil.

Since people live apart from where their food is grown, gleaning requires volunteers who will bridge the gap between the field and the pantry to bring food to locations where persons in need can receive it. Farmers donate the produce they cannot sell to CROS Ministries. Volunteers gather the produce. Our food-distributing partners then distribute the recovered produce to local agencies with feeding programs for individuals and families with low-incomes, seniors, people with disabilities, and the homeless. The food is given away free of charge.

What is New for the 2021-2022 Season?

1. Robynne Ryals has been hired as the Assistant Director of Gleaning. You might possibly be in communication with her or Keith as they assist you in volunteering this season.
2. We are adding a Sunday Belle Glade option for small groups of gleaners; 6-12 persons per event in the months of January and February. This event is for gleaners 13+ years of age.

Gleaning Events by Region

(an anticipated schedule is included in this packet)

Gleaning Clewiston

Anticipated Starting Date: Mid-November continuing through January
Crop: Sweet corn and cabbage
Gleaning Method: Teams

Gleaning Belle Glade, Pahokee, & Canal Point

Anticipated Starting Date: Mid-December continuing through Mid-May
Crop: Lettuce, greens, sweet corn and cabbage
Gleaning Method: Teams

Gleaning Boynton Beach & Delray Beach

Anticipated Starting Date: Mid-January continuing through Mid-May
Crop: Green peppers, tomatoes and cucumbers
Gleaning Method: Row crop

Gleaning Palm City

Anticipated Starting Date: Mid-February continuing through Mid-May
Crop: Potatoes
Gleaning Method: Row crop

Gleaning Lantana

Anticipated Starting Date: May continuing through Mid-July
Crop: Mangoes
Gleaning Method: By tree for Mangoes

Group Signup Section

- 1) Groups are able to sign up to glean on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Weekend dates for groups are a part of the schedule page included in this packet.
 - a. Group leaders can register their groups for events by contacting Keith directly. Please email Keith to discuss available dates at kcutshall@crosmministries.org.
 - b. Gleanings on Thursdays will be in the Belle Glade area and are for gleaners 13+.
 - c. Groups wanting to glean on a weekday can sign up for a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday from January 14th through May 6th. These dates are not included on the schedule page in this packet.

Individual & Family Signup Instructions

- 1) Individuals and Families are able to sign up for gleaning on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Refer to the schedule page to find dates and locations.
 - a. Register by contacting Keith with the date and location you prefer by emailing him at kcutshall@crosmministries.org.

Gleaning Heroes

We are continuing our Hero Gleaning Teams that commit to being available to glean on a specific day each week over a period of 10-12 weeks. Individuals would sign up for a specific day, but field locations and crop would vary. While we understand individuals won't be able to make every week for the season, they are committing to being available consistently on that day. We are forming the following teams:

East County Monday

February 7th through April 11th

Peppers, tomatoes, squash and cucumbers will be the focus of this team. We are going to stretch the definition of East County to include Loxahatchee Groves in this geography, so there is an off chance of sweet corn as well. This glean will be a morning 8:30 to 11:30 event.

County Wide Wednesday

January 26th through April 13th

On Wednesdays we are looking to provide our smaller pantry partners with a wide diversity of crops on a single day of gleaning. To accomplish that we will be spanning the county picking crops in fields, receiving donations from cull lines and from packing houses. We will focus on getting one bin or pallet of each crop with five or six types of crops represented. You are signing up for the 8:30 to 11:30 time slot, but will be invited to spend the day traversing the county to recover what we need. Pack a lunch and get ready for an adventure.

If you are interested in exploring being a Gleaning Hero please contact Keith at 561-236-8176 or email him at kcutshall@crosmministries.org. Gleaning Heroes must be 13+.

THINGS TO DO BEFORE GLEANING

1. All gleaners need to review "Rules and Helpful Hints" below for themselves and with their group.
2. Complete the "Gleaner's Liability Waiver" and the "Assumption of Risk" form in this packet for **each gleaner** and bring with you to the gleaning site. Give them to the field supervisor at the gleaning site who is collecting them. You will need a gleaning form every time you come and glean with us. **Adults supervising groups also need a waiver form.**
3. Bring water and gloves for yourself and/or group.

Be sure to stress with your group/family that there are no absolute guarantees that you will be able to glean on the day that you have chosen. You, like the farmers, are depending on the weather and growing conditions of the season. CROS Ministries arranges for gleaning dates during the harvest time when it is most likely that there will be produce available for gleaning. Regrettably, dry or wet weather may affect the availability and condition of the produce. Rain on the day of or the days immediately preceding the planned gleaning may cause the field to be too wet to traverse.

RULES FOR GLEANERS

When gleaning, remember you are on another person's property. Treat it better than your own property. (Make sure you are leaving no water bottles, disposable gloves, candy wrappers, etc.). We are guests, please don't abuse the privilege, or we may lose it.

1. Every gleaner must complete the enclosed Gleaner Form. **All gleaners under 18 years of age must have the waiver signed by their parents and be accompanied by a supervising adult.**
2. All gleaners still in elementary, middle or high school must be accompanied by a supervising adult. This includes high school students 18 years of age or older.
3. **In the field, the field supervisor is in charge.** Follow his/her instructions and directions completely. They are there to protect your safety, the safety of the produce and to protect the property owner's interest. Glean only in those areas designated by the field supervisor.
4. **Children five years of age and older are only allowed to glean with direct adult supervision. Children ages 5 and 6 must** be within arm's reach of a responsible adult at all times. Some gleaning events are limited to older participants. These are designated on the schedule as 13+.
5. Safety is of the utmost important in gleaning. **If any activity is questionable do not do it.** Such safety practices include:
 - Do not climb trees or fences.
 - Do not ride on the back of moving vehicles.
 - Stay away from farm machinery, canals and roadways.
 - Maintain a safe distance from other gleaners.

The field supervisor can cancel a gleaning at any time if he/she feels these rules are not being followed.

6. No pets please, it is not safe for them and a violation of food safety practices.

HELPFUL HINTS

1. It is often good to dress in layers. In the morning, it is likely to be colder and damp, wearing a long sleeve shirt and long pants are recommended. As it gets warmer, a short sleeve shirt may be better. **Closed toed shoes are required.** No flip flops or open toed or heel shoes are permitted.
2. In cornfields, long pants are needed. Leaves from the corn stalks are sharp and can cut the skin.
3. It is recommended that all gleaners wear hats in the field, apply sunscreen, and have bug spray handy in case insects are an issue.
4. Bathroom facilities are unavailable in most gleaning fields. It is advisable to use the bathroom prior to coming to the field.
5. A three to five gallon pail with a handle is an excellent container to carry through the field. Fill it and empty it into the packing box or bin. We will have some on hand for you.
6. **Mangoes are a member of the poison ivy family.** Those with that allergy are encouraged not to glean mangoes.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When will I know where we are gleaning? The growers notify CROS at the beginning of the week what field they might have available for gleaning the upcoming weekend. The gleaning director then travels to the field usually on Monday to map out directions. It is our goal to send out directions by Monday afternoon. If field directions are going to be delayed, you will be notified.

Can I choose where we glean? We pick what is ready to be picked where it is ready to be picked. We offer suggestions about what is likely to be in season at certain locations, but on a specific weekend we have to get what is ready for harvest or lose it. We understand if you need something close to your residence and we do try to accommodate you. We also need volunteers who are willing to be inconvenienced and go the extra mile to get what would otherwise be lost. We hope you rise to that challenge.

Are there bathrooms at the field? In most instances, no.

What are the times? We glean from 8:30 am until 11:30 am. We finish early if we have filled the capacity of the box truck.

Do I have to wear a mask? We dropped the requirement for masking during last season when it became clear that outdoor transmission of the coronavirus was rare. We do not require gleaners to wear masks, but they are permitted for those who want to wear them. We do ask that people respect others space while gleaning.

Gleaning – Biblical References

Gleaning as a practice to combat hunger is thousands of years old. The people most likely to be hunger victims during the times of the Hebrew Scriptures were widows, orphans and people traveling through the land called Sojourners. *“When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the Lord your God.”* (Leviticus 19:9-10) other references include Deuteronomy 24:19-22 & Ruth 2:2ff.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR CHRISTIANS REACHING OUT TO SOCIETY, INC., A FLORIDA-BASED NONPROFIT CORPORATION (REGISTRATION NO. CH20251), MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE OR VISITING THEIR WEBSITE, WWW.FLORIDACONSUMERHELP.COM. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY STATE. 501 (C) TAX EXEMPT #59-1802917. CHRISTIANS REACHING OUT TO SOCIETY, INC. RECEIVES 100% OF EACH CONTRIBUTION, WITH 0% GIVEN TO A PROFESSIONAL SOLICITOR.

Gleaner's Liability Waiver for 2021-2022 Gleaning Season

Please complete and bring to the field with you each time you glean.

REQUIRED: In the event I or my child suffer any illness or accident requiring emergency or hospitalization, medication or surgery while participating in this gleaning, on the recommendation of the doctor, after consultation with the adults in charge of this event, I hereby give my permission for any medical treatment which may deem necessary and reasonable under the circumstances, understanding that the gleaning coordinator or other responsible person will contact me at the earliest possible moment. I fully understand and comprehend that reasonable care will be exercised by the adult staff for this gleaning event to protect the safety of those involved.

Photos, videos, audio and other images in which I appear that are taken during gleanings may be used by CROS Ministries for news coverage, newsletters, publicity, reports, displays, and for other print, broadcast, web or electronic news or promotional purposes.

Safety is of paramount importance in a gleaning event. For the protection of all involved, this disclaimer is necessary: I do not hold the board members or employees of CROS Ministries, Palm Beach County Food Bank, or any volunteers liable for any injury, bodily harm, accident or death of myself/my child during gleaning events sponsored by CROS Ministries. Neither will I hold the person(s) who own and/or operate the farm(s), business, plant, orchards, groves or the homeowner who owns the backyard, from which we glean, liable for accidents, injury, or death during the gleaning events.

For events at Agri-Gators, Inc. the following also applies: Safety is of paramount importance in a gleaning event. For the protection of all involved, this disclaimer is necessary: I do not hold the person(s) who own and/or operate the farm(s), or employees of Agri-Gators, or any volunteers liable for any injury, bodily harm, accident or death of myself/my child during gleaning events.

Name _____ Age _____
Print

Signature _____ Date _____
Gleaner

Group _____

**If Gleaner is under 18 or 18+ and still in High School
Parent must sign below**

Signature _____ Date _____
Parent/guardian if gleaner is under 18 years of age

Supervising Adult _____

Notify in Case of Emergency

Name _____ Relationship _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ Alternate Phone # (____) _____

Medical Conditions or Drug Allergies: _____

Community Service Hours Section

I would like community service hours for this event. You must provide an email address below.

E-mail address _____

CROS Ministries' Gleaning Program is funded, in whole or in part through a subrecipient grant awarded by the United States Department of Agriculture through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The contents in these materials/presentation do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the United States Department of Agriculture nor does mention of trade names, commercial productions, services or organization imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Gleaning Dates and Locations

Please understand that all of the locations listed below are tentative. Growing conditions vary year to year, agricultural markets do as well. Listed below are our best estimates based upon previous experience. Locations could open up sooner, later or not at all. We will let you know as soon as we know. In addition, new growers join us from time to time, which will also create unforeseen opportunities in new locations.

<u>Day of the Week</u>	<u>Calendar Date</u>	<u>Anticipated Locations</u>
Saturday	November 13 th	Clewiston
Saturday	November 20 th	Clewiston
Saturday	December 4 th	Clewiston
Saturday	December 11 th	Clewiston
*Thursday	December 16 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event.
*Saturday	December 18 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event.
*Thursday	December 23 rd	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event.
*Thursday	December 30 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event.
*Thursday	January 6 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Saturday	January 8 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	January 8 th	Belle Glade/Pahokee
*Sunday	January 9 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	January 13 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	January 15 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	January 15 th	Pahokee
*Saturday	January 15 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Sunday	January 16 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	January 20 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Saturday	January 22 nd	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	January 22 nd	Pahokee
Saturday	January 22 nd	Boynton Beach
Sunday	January 23 rd	Boynton Beach
*Sunday	January 23 rd	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	January 27 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Saturday	January 29 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	January 29 th	Belle Glade #2
Saturday	January 29 th	Boynton Beach
Sunday	January 30 th	Boynton Beach
*Sunday	January 30 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	February 3 rd	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 5 th	Delray Beach
*Saturday	February 5 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 5 th	Belle Glade #2
Sunday	February 6 th	Delray Beach
*Sunday	February 6 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	February 10 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 12 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	February 12 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	February 12 th	Palm City

<u>Day of the Week</u>	<u>Calendar Date</u>	<u>Anticipated Locations</u>
*Saturday	February 12 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 12 th	Belle Glade #2
Sunday	February 13 th	Delray Beach/Boynton Beach
*Sunday	February 13 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	February 17 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 19 th	Delray Beach,
*Saturday	February 19 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 19 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	February 19 th	Palm City
Saturday	February 19 th	Belle Glade #2
Sunday	February 20 th	Delray Beach/Boynton Beach
*Sunday	February 20 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	February 24 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 26 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	February 26 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	February 26 th	Palm City
*Saturday	February 26 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	February 26 th	Belle Glade #2
Sunday	February 27 th	Delray Beach/Boynton Beach
*Sunday	February 27 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Thursday	March 3 rd	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 5 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	March 5 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	March 5 th	Palm City
*Saturday	March 5 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 5 th	Belle Glade #2
Sunday	March 6 th	Boynton Beach
Sunday	March 6 th	Delray Beach
*Thursday	March 10 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 12 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	March 12 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	March 12 th	Palm City
*Saturday	March 12 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 12 th	Belle Glade #2
Sunday	March 13 th	Delray Beach
Sunday	March 13 th	Boynton Beach
*Thursday	March 17 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 19 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	March 19 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	March 19 th	Palm City
*Saturday	March 19 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 19 th	Belle Glade (corn) or Clewiston (cabbage)
Sunday	March 20 th	Boynton Beach
Sunday	March 20 th	Delray Beach
*Thursday	March 24 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 26 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	March 26 th	Boynton Beach

<u>Day of the Week</u>	<u>Calendar Date</u>	<u>Anticipated Locations</u>
Saturday	March 26 th	Palm City
*Saturday	March 26 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	March 26 th	Belle Glade (corn) or Clewiston (cabbage)
Sunday	March 27 th	Boynton Beach
Sunday	March 27 th	Delray Beach
*Thursday	March 31 st	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
*Saturday	April 2 nd	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	April 2 nd	Delray Beach
Saturday	April 2 nd	Palm City
Saturday	April 2 nd	Boynton Beach
Saturday	April 2 nd	Belle Glade #2
Sunday	April 3 rd	Boynton Beach
*Thursday	April 7 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Saturday	April 9 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	April 9 th	Palm City
Saturday	April 9 th	Boynton Beach
Saturday	April 9 th	Belle Glade #2
*Saturday	April 9 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Sunday	April 10 th	Delray Beach
*Thursday	April 14 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event

There will be no gleaning over Easter weekend April 16th and 17th

Saturday	April 23 rd	Delray Beach
Saturday	April 23 rd	Palm City
Saturday	April 23 rd	Boynton Beach
Saturday	April 23 rd	Belle Glade
Sunday	April 24 th	Delray Beach
*Thursday	April 28 th	Belle Glade *participants must be 13+ for this event
Sunday	May 1 st	Delray Beach
Saturday	May 7 th	Delray Beach
Saturday	May 7 th	Palm City
Saturday	May 7 th	Belle Glade
Saturday	May 14 th	Belle Glade
Saturday	May 14 th	Palm City
Saturday	May 21 st	Belle Glade
Saturday	May 28 th	Lantana
Tuesday	May 31 st	Lantana

During the **Month of June** we will be harvesting mangoes in Lantana every day except for Sundays. The events will be from 8:30-10:30. Please remember that the mango is a member of the poison ivy family.

The July Mango schedule will be determined based upon crop availability.

Contact Keith Cutshall at kcutshall@crossministries.org to schedule a gleaning event.

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