



Community Harvest FAQs

How do I register my farm or fruit tree?

Please complete the [online donor registration form](#) and give us as much information as possible about your tree or property. We will follow up with you within 1-2 business days. You can also email us at foodhub@sourcesbc.ca or call us at 604-318-7426.

Where do you harvest?

We harvest in the City of Surrey and the City of White Rock. There are organizations operating similar programs in other communities:

[Langley Environmental Partners Society](#)

[Richmond Food Security Society](#)

[Vancouver Fruit Tree Project](#)

I have a fruit tree that is diseased/infested. Can it still be harvested?

It depends on the type of infestation. Send us an email or give a call and we can make an assessment together. We can also share resources to help you improve the health of your tree.

When will you come harvest?

Our volunteers usually operate between 9am and 2pm during the week to make it easier to donate the produce to community organizations immediately, decreasing the risk of spoilage. Volunteers may be able to harvest in the evenings or on weekends if we can make appropriate arrangements.

Who will be harvesting my produce?

Volunteers of all ages from your community have signed up to participate, including families. The team of volunteers who arrive at your house have been chosen as best suited to the environment they will be harvesting in. A trained and experienced team leader will conduct a safety orientation prior to each harvest to ensure everyone's safety. In addition, each volunteer has submitted a clear criminal record check and have had their references checked.

What is my responsibility in the harvest?

Please give us as much information as possible about your produce and the site when you register so we can plan appropriately. Our volunteer harvesters will knock on your door when they arrive, and you're welcome to help them harvest, but there's no obligation – they're fully



equipped. Either way, a third of the harvest is yours to keep if you want it. Please do provide a container for the volunteers to fill with your share of the produce. Please also inform the volunteers if you would like them to place any unusable produce, leaves, etc. in a compost or green waste bin.

What will happen the day of the harvest?

The volunteer team will arrive at your location at the time you have agreed upon, with all the necessary equipment (crates, ladders, picking poles, etc.). A volunteer will knock on your door to let you know they have arrived unless you have given other directions. The volunteers will assess the yard/farm and the condition of the produce. If the space is safe and the produce is ripe and of sufficient quality, they will begin harvesting. (If the volunteers leave the site due to concerns about safety or about the quality of the produce, we will follow up with you.) Harvesting usually takes between one and two hours, depending on the amount of produce and the number of volunteers. Produce may be left behind if the volunteers cannot safely harvest it, for example from the top portions of very tall trees. When the volunteers have finished, they will do their best to clear the area of any unusable produce, branches, etc. to leave it as tidy as they found it.

Will you take all my produce?

Only if you want us to. You choose which trees/crops/etc. our volunteers should harvest. Then we operate on a model by which 1/3 of the harvest stays with you, 1/3 is shared among the volunteer team, and the remaining 1/3 (plus any additional unwanted harvest) is donated to a community organization, such as the Sources White Rock/South Surrey Food Bank. Our goal is to ensure that all the produce is utilized without going to waste. Please note, though, that we are not able to donate backyard fruit that has dropped on the ground due to possible contamination.

What if someone hurts themselves while on my property? Will I be held responsible?

Each volunteer has signed a waiver of liability releasing both Sources and the landowner from any actions or claims in case of injury. (In the case of children under the age of 16, their parents/guardians will have signed on their behalf.) In addition, Sources carries liability insurance for all registered volunteers.

If we have not answered all your questions here, please contact us at foodhub@sourcesbc.ca or 604-318-7426.