



Willing Hands

Volunteer Report

June 2024



2023 Volunteer Impact

3,339

total volunteer hours

27

farm partners for gleaning

146

garden sessions

336

group volunteer hours

68,822 lbs

of food harvested by community members

153

gleaning sessions

230

individual garden volunteers

48

youth and

308

individual gleaning volunteers

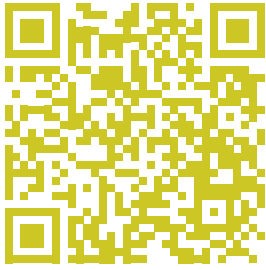
1,479

garden volunteer hours

130

adults volunteered as part of a group

Volunteering *at Will*



Want to learn more about becoming a Willing Hands volunteer and helping to get nutritious local produce to the people who need it most in our community? Go to willinghands.org/volunteer-sign-up to get all the details, or scan the code at left.

Scan here to volunteer!



"The best part of working with volunteers is seeing **how happy they are** to offer their precious time to help their neighbors in the community."

—Chris

Operations

WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO: Help our dedicated staff keep the warehouse in top form so that food can be picked up and delivered seamlessly.

REGULAR SESSIONS

- **Bits and Bobs:** On Tuesday mornings, a group of volunteers join our staff in the warehouse to help sort food
- **Water Park:** On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons during the summer, volunteers help wash and organize the bins we use to pack up our produce
- **Driving:** Volunteers use their own vehicles to help pick up smaller quantities of produce from local farms
- **Lawn mowing support** at our Norwich facility, as needed

"Working together to harvest produce for those who need it most is just a win-win all around. The intrinsic joy we get in being outdoors, working with local farms, and accomplishing a common goal is felt by all. We love seeing that mirrored around us."

—Alec & Shara



Gleans

WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO: Willing Hands volunteer gleaners visit local partner farms and orchards throughout the Upper Valley to collect fresh vegetables, berries, apples, and mixed produce directly from the fields.

"We love the camaraderie of working with other like-minded people who enjoy harvesting surplus crops in the fields at local farms so others can share the bounty of the beautiful and nutritious(!) produce."

—Carolyn & Milt



REGULAR GLEANING SESSIONS

- Sunday mornings at Cedar Circle Farm
- Tuesday mornings at Crossroad Farm
- Wednesday mornings at Honey Field Farm
- Thursday mornings at Edgewater Farm
- Thursday afternoons at Root 5 Farm

POP-UPS

- Strawberry and blueberry gleans in July
- Apple, root veggie, and corn gleans in September and October

A season of volunteering



June

Veggies from the garden

July

Blueberries



August

Corn and tomatoes



Willing Hands



"My favorite part about the Willing Hands volunteer community is **the friendships I've made**. I feel very lucky to work with such an awesome group of people in the gardens."

—Mikey

Gardens

WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO: Willing Hands tends several gardens in the Upper Valley, including sites at Cedar Circle Farm, Dartmouth Hitchcock Health, and at home at our own Norwich facility. Volunteers help prepare beds, plant, weed, harvest, wash, and box up thousands of pounds of vegetables each year.

REGULAR GARDEN SESSIONS

- Tuesday mornings at Cedar Circle Farm
- Tuesday afternoons at the Willing Hands Home Garden in Norwich
- Wednesday afternoons at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Pharmacy Garden
- Thursday afternoons at Cedar Circle Farm
- Saturday mornings at Cedar Circle Farm

POP-UPS

- Volunteer projects at our River Road Garden beginning in June
- Occasional special sessions to help with projects like watering, seeding, and more

"The level of **our community's dedication to the mission and work of Willing Hands is remarkable**. As a new member of the team, I am really looking forward to getting to know people through volunteer sessions!"

—Molly



September

Apples



October

Squash and potatoes

Admin and Office

WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO: Office tasks are varied and include a range of tasks that keep our day-to-day operations running smoothly.

REGULAR SESSIONS

- Weekly data entry and filing
- Weekly office management projects
- Support assembling documents for our annual audit process
- Grounds clean-up in the spring and fall

POP-UPS

- Bulk mailings
- Help with office-related events—Party on!
- Special projects



"My favorite part of working with volunteers is the conversation! I'm consistently amazed and inspired by some of the incredible stories I hear from volunteers while 'doing the work.' There's something about simply 'doing good' that cultivates sincere authenticity and connection."

—Beth

Groups

WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO: Group volunteer sessions take place within our garden and gleaning programs at our local garden sites and partner farms.

SESSIONS

- We love it when many folks volunteer together and we encourage local businesses, schools, and other community groups to contact us to learn more about our opportunities. We can accommodate a variety of group sizes and schedules.

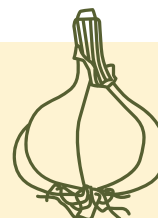
"Volunteers contribute so much more than simply effort and hard work at Willing Hands. **They're part of the spirit and culture here**. I am thrilled to be working with the many groups of folks who pitch in all season long and make our work possible."

—Christine



November

Garlic planting





Willing Hands

Reducing
food waste to
end hunger.

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willinghands.org

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Volunteer Spotlights



Janet Hardy

Janet has volunteered at the Willing Hands garden at Cedar Circle Farm, at our site, packing farmer boxes during the pandemic, and continues to help out with office work and data entry. She joined the Willing Hands Board of Directors in 2022.

“I think Willing Hands is a unique organization and I strongly believe in their mission to reduce waste and make fresh food available to all. I want to help it continue to be a successful organization. Besides, it just feels good and it’s fun.”

—Janet



Hypertherm

Groups of Hypertherm employees help at Willing Hands garden and gleaning sessions—and the many hands they are able to lend help us tackle some of our biggest projects!

“Willing Hands always makes new volunteers feel comfortable right away. We love knowing that we are helping our community members who are experiencing food insecurity get fresh, healthy food while making meaningful connections with other volunteers and our teams.”

—Larissa, Hypertherm volunteer