

Scouting for Food 2017

Background

The Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America is coordinating a council-wide food collection drive on February 11, 2017. Collected materials will benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank and sister agencies across the service area. The Council Chair is to be determined. Dwanna Hughes (dwhughes@bsamail.org) is the council advisor for the campaign.

How It Will Work

The Scouting for Food campaign will collect non-perishable food items. Units should pre-register and print off promotional materials. Both can be completed on the Middle Tennessee Council's website (<http://mtcbsa.org/NewsUpcomingEvents.html>). Units can coordinate collection areas with other participating units at their January District Roundtables. Units are encouraged to place hangers the week prior to the collection date, February 4, 2017. Then on February 11th, Scouts will fan out to collect the donations and bring the donations to agencies located in their counties. Units should count their donations and deliver them to an agency listed on the online registration form on the 11th and email those results to the Scouting for Food Chair (TBD).

Critical Dates

January

Coordinate pickup locations at Roundtable

February

4-11 Unit Distribution of Door Hangers / Notifications/
collection bags

11 Collection Day

12-22 secondary sorting (additional service project)

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Our unit already conducts a food drive for our local food bank, why should we stop supporting them?

A: Service to others is a critical component to the scouting program, and units should feel free to continue participation in their unit service projects. However, units are being strongly encouraged to participate in this council-wide effort.

Q: By donating to Second Harvest, doesn't that take the food out of our local community and send it to Nashville?

A: Units outside of the Metro Davidson County areas will be consolidating food to local, affiliated agencies that keep the food in the local community.

Q: Will the units have to sort the food?

A: Unless otherwise directed by sister agencies, Second Harvest has explicitly directed not to pre-sort the food before bringing it to the collection site.

Q: Can units volunteer additional time to the project?

A: Yes, secondary sorting operations at Second Harvest is available for the week following the collection.

Q: Can units collect at supermarkets?

A: Yes, units can collect at retailers if proper permission is received. Collection boxes can be picked up from Second Harvest Food Bank on Great Circle Road. However, units are encouraged to deliver the collection boxes to the agencies on February 8th.

Q: Is there any recognition programs being implemented for this campaign?

A: Yes. Patches will be provided to scouts and scouters that participate in the drive.

