
Subject: AmpleHarvest - Gulf Coast

As you know, the BP oil disaster in the Gulf region has displaced many jobs and therefore, is sending even more people to local food pantries seeking assistance for their families.

To help local communities deal with his challenge, the AmpleHarvest.org Campaign, now helping more than 2,300 food pantries across all 50 states receive locally grown garden produce, has shifted its priorities to focus both on getting more food pantries in the Gulf region registered on AmpleHarvest.org, as well as getting the word out to more gardeners that they can help diminish the misery index in the area.

AmpleHarvest.org is working with all of the food banks along the Gulf from Texas to Florida, along with various hunger groups – all of help increase the number of food pantries registered at AmpleHarvest.org.

At the same time, AmpleHarvest.org is working also with various USDA offices, garden groups, and service/faith organizations to urge more gardeners to donate their excess garden produce to local food pantries.

Additionally, a special Google Ad Campaign and landing page (<http://www.ampleharvest.org/LP/LGulf2.php>) have been set up to help spread the word.

Since it is clear that the economic impact of the spill will last for many years, and since gardening in this region takes place all year long, the local gardening community is in a position to provide ongoing assistance for months or even years to come.

One recent comment from the New Orleans food bank was “Ampleharvest.org is a tremendous resource to connect food pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens to neighborhood gardeners and farmers. Now, with the ongoing crisis in the Gulf of Mexico, these agencies are experiencing increased demand as families struggle with the uncertainty about their futures and their livelihoods. By using Ampleharvest.org, agencies and gardeners can provide much needed support through nutritious and high-quality produce.”

Anything you can do to help urge more Gulf area pantries to register or help more gardeners learn about AmpleHarvest.org would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

Take Care,

Gary Oppenheimer

AmpleHarvest.org Founder/CNN Hero

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