Harvest Season 2017 is Here!

Throughout the winter we have been busy planning the coming harvest season and, equally important, laying a solid foundation in administration and funding to make this season AWESOME!

- **Harvest Timing** - With spring being so cool and arriving a bit later than in the past few years, the start of the season has been difficult to predict. However, with a smattering of strawberry harvests and more on the horizon, I’m officially announcing the start of the 2017 season! Dust off your picking buckets, find your rain jacket and start watching the Harvest page on the website.

- **New Board Member** - Mady Kimmich has joined the Salem Harvest Board of Directors. She brings an unmatched knowledge of non-profits and grant writing experience to help SH reach its maximum potential.

- **Transportation** - Salem Harvest is striving to include more families who could benefit from the opportunities that our organization provides. We know that for many people, driving to a harvest is not possible or is difficult to arrange. With these concerns in mind, the Transportation Committee is collaborating with other groups in the community to explore ways to reduce this participation barrier.

  However, before we can continue our planning, we need more information about how much transportation help volunteers need. Please follow this link to take a short survey to help us better understand the overall need. Included are questions about pickup/drop off, carpooling and willingness to drive others. If you know of other people who would appreciate or benefit from arranged transportation, encourage them to fill out the survey. The more feedback we get, the better we can plan. If you have questions or would like to be part of the committee, please contact Mike at smartm@comcast.net.

- **Harvest Leaders** - We have 24 harvest leaders for this season. All have studied the Harvest Leader Manual and completed a training class. The new leaders will very soon begin to get hands-on experience in the fields, accompanying a longtime leader before they lead harvests on their own. If you are interested in becoming a harvest leader, it’s never too late! Please email me (elise@salemharvest.org) or see me in the fields to discuss.

  Harvest leaders are only one part of the support needed for a successful harvest. We also need several people to be Harvest Assistants at each farm harvest: a fun way to get to know other volunteers and to do an extra bit to help the harvests go smoothly. When you go to the harvest sign-up page, simply click on “Sign up to harvest and to help for a half hour”; the harvest leader will be in touch with further information.

**Thank you so much** to everyone who came out to support our fundraisers, stepped up to get training as a leader, and have made time to be a part of a committee. Team is where it’s at! Please read on as there is much more news about fundraisers, cookbooks, and new features on the website.

See you in the fields soon!

- Executive Director

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**Board of Directors**

- **Dick Yates**  
  President

- **Roz Shirack**  
  Secretary

- **Katherine Daniels**  
  Board member

- **Mady Kimmich**  
  Board member

- **George Harris**  
  Board member

- **Rob Easton**  
  Board member

- **Ron Pearmine**  
  Vice-president
**Salem Harvest Cookbook**

It’s happening! A unique Salem Harvest cookbook will be available to buy and give as a gift this fall. The book will contain recipes featuring crops which we harvest during the season and will be organized in order of harvest timing.

**Please submit recipes** by emailing them to cookbook@salemharvest.org or by bringing printed recipes to harvests during the season. Our goal is to have 150 to 200 excellent recipes in this soft-sided, comb-bound book. Cool Salem Harvest swag will be given away bi-weekly as prizes during the months of July and August for recipes submitted. The deadline for submitting recipes is Sept. 1, 2017, giving us time for formatting and printing in time for delivery in Nov.

**Ad space** is available in the cookbook for reasonable prices ($25-$150). [Click here](#) to learn more. Advertise your business, remember a loved one, thank a dear friend, or anything in between.

**Pre-order** cookbooks for $12 each during harvests through the summer or by sending Eileen an email at cookbook@salemharvest.org with your name, contact number and number of books to order (funds to be collected at delivery). Or plan to buy your books once they arrive in November for $15 each at area retailers.

**Clarifying the Principal Purpose of Salem Harvest**

The Salem Harvest Board of Directors has made an important change to the wording of our principal purpose:

Salem Harvest is a non-profit organization that connects farmers and backyard growers with volunteers to harvest fruits and vegetables that would otherwise go to waste. Salem Harvest has as its principal purpose the distribution of food without charge to children or homeless, unemployed, elderly or low-income individuals.

This rewording makes Salem Harvest consistent with the State of Oregon’s definition of organizations like ours. It also assures that farmers are eligible to apply for an Oregon tax credit under ORS 315.154(3).

In accordance with this clarifying language, we have made modifications to our brochure, our website, and the forms used for harvests, particularly the Terms of Participation for our volunteers.

-Salem Harvest Board of Directors

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**Potential 2017 Harvest Guide**

This graph represents what we harvested on farms last year and when we harvested.

I expect this year’s timing to be later than 2016 by at least 2 weeks. However, due to planting dates, temperatures and weather, harvest timing is variable.

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How To Setup ‘My Page’

The Salem Harvest website has a useful new feature for volunteers: it’s ‘My Page’. See your current signup status, harvest confirmation details, and attendance history and update contact information, all in a single location. Here is how to create a My Page if you don’t already use this awesome feature:

- Go to www.salemharvest.org and click on the Volunteer button at the top of the page.
- Click on the Update button. It’s toward the middle of the page.
- Fill in your first and last name that you used when registering to volunteer with Salem Harvest. Click the ‘Get Volunteer Update link’ when complete.
- Wait for an email from the webmaster containing a link to update your contact information. When the link arrives (it takes up to 1 day), follow it to the Volunteer Update and Renewal Form.
- Update any of your information that has changed or is missing on the Update and Renewal Form. (I found out this past week that many volunteers don’t list a phone number so quickly reaching them with harvest news was difficult.)
- Create a password at the bottom of the form. It will be used to access your My Page.
- Click Save Changes then go back to the Volunteer page by clicking the Volunteer button.
- Click the My Page button and enter your first and last name and password you just created.

A page will open with your harvest attendance summary, a link and the right side to update your information, and a list of harvests you have attended and are currently signed up for. By clicking the link in the Info column, you can see details for particular harvests including the harvest date, time, location and other specific information. Also, check here to see if or when you move from the waiting list to the roster for a harvest.

Funding Salem Harvest

Where does Salem Harvest get its funding?
We are funded through grants, business sponsorships, fundraisers, and individual donations.

Thank you for making the 2017 Harvest Season Possible!

Funding Opportunities Yet to Come

- Bands & Brews to Fight Hunger Fundraiser
- Northwest Permanente
- Oregon Community Foundation & Schamp Family Fund
- Earth Day at LifeSource Fundraiser
- Salem Foundation & N Neighborhoods
- 16 Season Sponsors donating $500-$2,000 each. Find them all on the next page.

Salem Harvest Cookbook
Purchase books & advertisement space

Salem Harvest Garden Party
Sept. 10, 2017
Click here to learn more about this fabulous event

Kaiser Permanente
Employees can help Salem Harvest win a grant this fall by entering their volunteer hours at KP Cares
OUR MISSION

To feed hungry families by harvesting food that would go to waste.

Salem Harvest connects farmers and backyard growers with volunteers who harvest fruits and vegetables that would otherwise go to waste. All food harvested feeds children or elderly, unemployed, low-income or homeless people, the majority being distributed through Marion-Polk Food Share and its affiliated food agencies. Salem Harvest rescues about 300,000 pounds of fresh, locally-grown fruits and vegetables annually.