



## PSA

**Date:** April 15, 2020  
**To:** All Media  
**From:** Stephanie Krell, PIO Unified Command Team  
**Subject:** **Food Bank Donations Needed**

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Food banks in Wasco County are requesting food and/or monetary donations from the public because of the current high demand. Statewide, the Oregon Food Bank Network has seen a 20-30% increase in need in the last month. The Columbia Gorge Food Bank is seeing a similar increase and is expecting the increase to continue as unemployment rises.

Food banks are seeking donations to support immediate response efforts to ensure they can continue providing food through the long-term recovery of our civic life and local economy. As part of the Oregon Food Bank, Columbia Gorge Food Bank is effective and efficient -- 93% of donations go directly to hunger-relief activities.

At this time, they are accepting both cash and food donations. Individual food donations may be dropped at Fred Meyers in the food drive barrel. If you would like to make a larger food donation, please call their office at 541-370-2333. Cash donations can be mailed to 3610 Crates Way, The Dalles, OR 97058 or made online at [Columbia Gorge Food Bank](#). All online donations will go directly to hunger relief partners in Wasco, Hood River and Sherman counties.

### Most Wanted Food Items:

- Peanut Butter/Almond Butter
- Rice
- Tuna
- Beans (canned or dried)
- Pasta
- Whole Grain Cereal
- Shelf-stable Milk
- Cooking Oils
- Canned Tomatoes

- Other nutritious foods (preferably healthy, whole-grain, low-fat, low-sodium, and low-sugar products)

The Salvation Army food pantry, at 623 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1-3 PM. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-6 PM.

The Columbia Gorge Community College Chinook food pantry, at 400 E. Scenic Dr., is open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2-5 PM.

The food pantry in Sherman County, at 304 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Rufus, also has open hours. Check the daily schedule.

Distribution sites have been added in Maupin, Wamic, Mosier and Dufur. For more information on the location and service times of food pantries across the region, see the daily post on the "[Columbia Gorge Food Bank](#)" Facebook page, or call 541-370-2333.

Gilliam County food pantries are offering a pre-packed food box, which can be picked up curbside or delivered by Gilliam County Transportation and left outside the door. To request delivery in Condon, call Teddy Fennern at 541-626-1038 or Sandra Myers at 541-993-7699. In Arlington, call Kay West at 541-454-2885 or Judy Galvin at 541-454-5451.

### **Free School Meals**

North Wasco County School District is offering free meals "to go" for children ages 1 to 18. Check their [website](#) for more details.

Sherman County School District is offering free lunch bags for students for pickup at the Rufus Community Center, Wasco Train Depot, Moro Courthouse parking lot, Grass Valley Baptist Church parking lot, and Kent Baptist Church parking lot. Check [website](#) for times.

Gilliam County School District will offer grab and go pickup at the grade school building five days a week at 11 AM.

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