

# Why should you add gleaning to your food rescue operations.

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Founding Member  
Association of Gleaning Organizations



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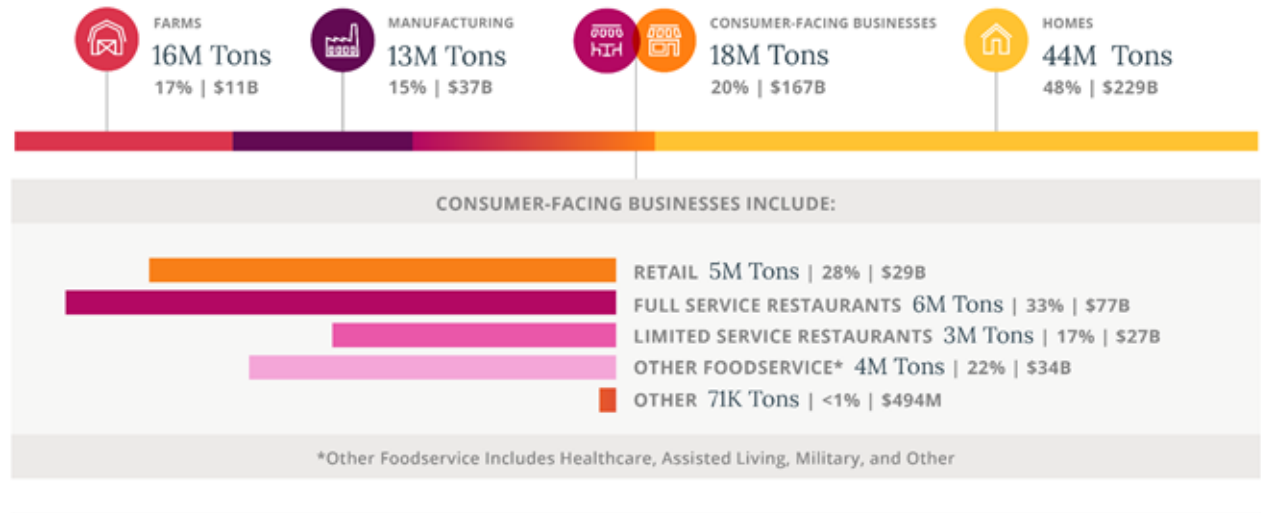
## Fresh Produce Is the Number Two Requested Food Item at Pantries

Three Items Most Requested at Food Banks · 1. Dairy products such as milk, cheese, or yogurt · 2. Fresh fruits and vegetables · 3. Lean proteins  
Source Feddign America.



# The number one source of food waste outside of the home is farms.

In 2018, it was estimated that tomato farmers in Florida left 41 percent of crops in the field, lettuce farmers in Arizona left 56 percent of crops in the field, and peach farmers in New Jersey left 40 percent of crops in the field. Resulting in 10 billion pounds of produce grown that is never harvested.



Source: ReFED April/May 2023

# Who is gleaning

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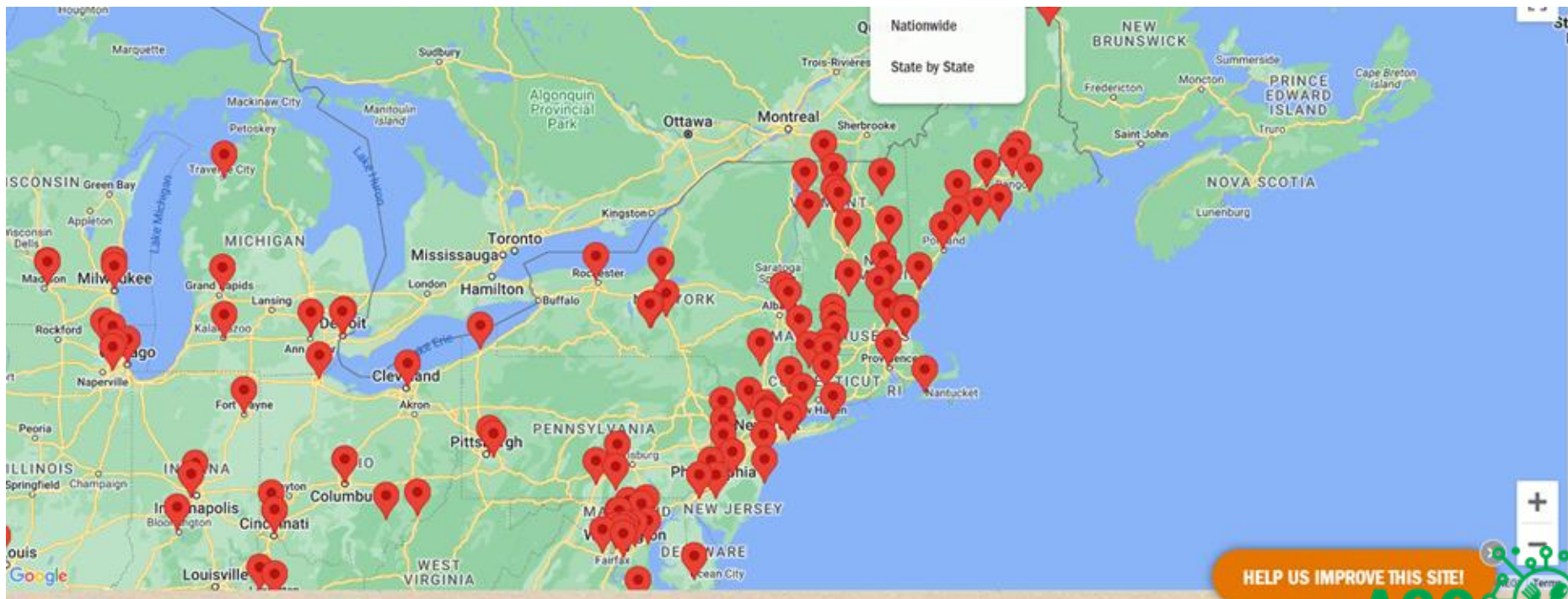
- 286 organization in North America
- 18% are part of a food bank
- The majority are part of a large social service operation
- 50% have less then .5 FTE dedicated to gleaning
- 50% of Gleaning budgets are less then \$30,000 a year
- Mostly volunteer lead and run

# What needed for a successful program

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- Volunteers
  - The average organization uses 150 volunteers per year
- A location to glean, backyard, farmers market, or farm
  - We find successful organizations work regularly with just 5-6 farms
- Distribution location
  - The average organization distributes to 23 locations
- Gleaning is largely about logistics and food rescue organizations are great at logistics

# Map of Gleaning Organizations



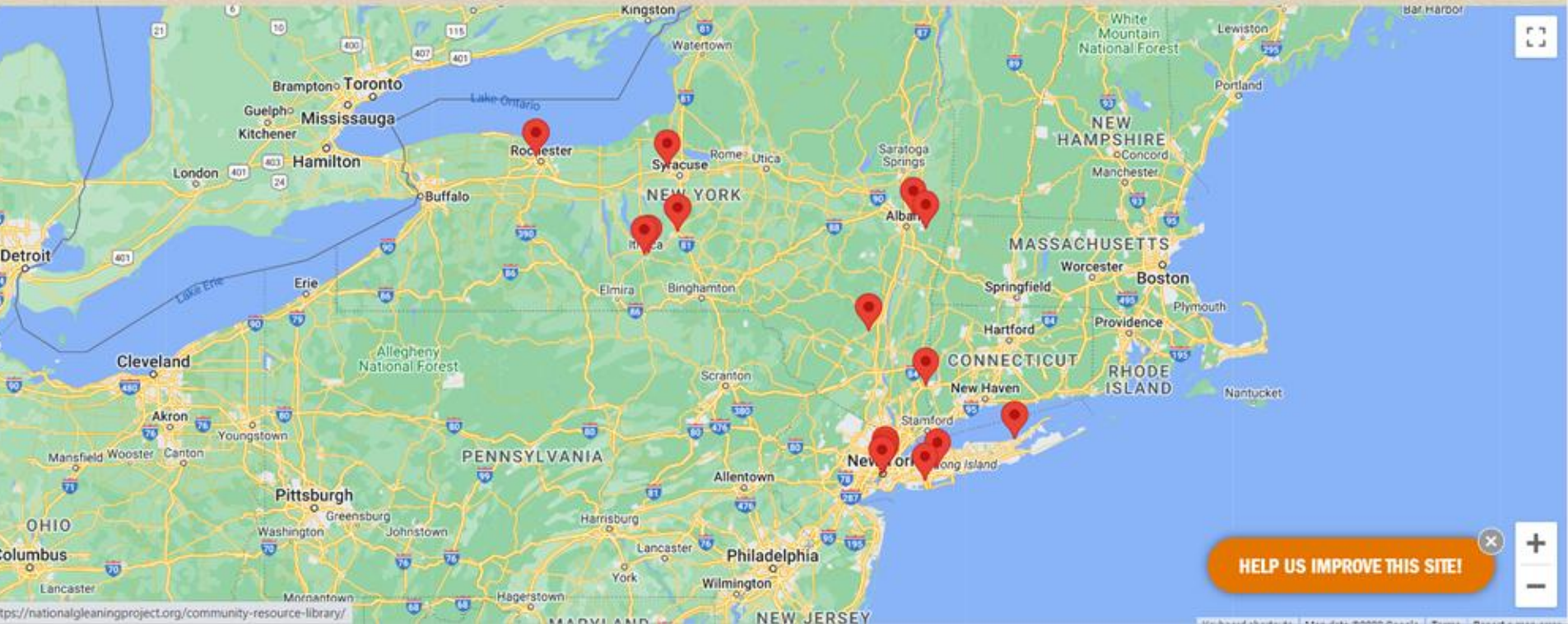
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**AGO**

Association of  
Gleaning Organizations



# Map of Gleaning Organizations



# Available Resource

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- The 2020 Gleaning Census
- Nationalgleaningproject.org
- AGO
  - Coffee chats
  - Coaching
  - Mentorship Program
  - Online Resources
- [Shawne@gleaners.us](mailto:Shawne@gleaners.us)
- Gleaning orgs.com