

Earth Day Canada/Jour de la Terre FAQs

The technical challenge mention there is a minimum of 5 participants, why and how does it work?

Farmers are allowing people on their properties and as such there is a need to establish trust with the gleaning team. For that reason, it's expected that gleaning groups will have a leader which is responsible for the group and will be the point of contact for the event.

Additionally, gleaning is not realistically a single person job, Earth Day, from previous experiences estimate the minimum number of participants is 5 to make it worthwhile.

Should the application include a way to match single volunteers with others to create groups? Should there be geographic event to volunteer matching?

Such features while not part of the initial scope are very interesting and are in line with the idea behind the platform.

The document mention Capacity for both farmers and Food Banks, what is the difference? Farmers, depending on the type of fields, vegetables, or fruit to glean, might have maximum capacity for volunteers.

Food Banks have a certain capacity to process the food they receive (especially for fresh products), so there is a limitation in how much produces they can handle.

How is the delivery or pick-up process working, who's involved?

The produce is usually moved from the farm to the food bank. Food banks are usually able to pick up the produces as they are equipped for pickups of goods in general. What is important in this step is to arrange the timing of the event and pick up.

Remember that we are talking about fresh produces, we want them to stay fresh



What about priority in events? It was mentioned that some gleaning events should have a higher urgency level.

Depending on the type of produces that will be harvested and the actual state of the produces (ie. ripe tomatoes), there are occurrences where it's very important that the gleaning happens as fast as possible. In this optic, it's important to assign a priority to events so gleaners can come and avoid any food loss.



Should the platform have some Admin or Moderating section?

They idea is to get an application that is low maintenance, so any features like comment automoderation, minimum hands on the different processes is appreciated.

However, there are still a few steps that might require human intervention, such as validating farmer accounts.

How to showcase impact?

This is up to you, think about what make sense given the data we have:

- quantity of produces saved
- quantity of gleaning events
- location of events
- number of gleaners
- top gleaners

It could be a map, it could be numbers, etc.

If there is too many produces for a single food bank, could we have a mechanism to notify others nearby to split?

Certainly, anything avoid waste is welcome.

How is the harvest handled?

Usually, it is first weighted by the farmer to know how much was gleaned. Then it's split in 3 parts: one for the farmer, one for the gleaners to share and one to the food bank.

However, it's not unheard of to have farmer give up their share to the profit of the food banks.

Are the produces coming from organic farms exclusively?

While a good proportion of gleaning events are proposed by smaller and frequently organic farms, there is no restriction on the type of farms to participate. Everyone get an equal chance to give back to the community.