

Backyard fruit rescue is going to get bigger and better in Edmonton!

Operation Fruit Rescue Edmonton (OFRE) and the Leftovers Foundation are excited to announce their partnership in the transfer of the backyard fruit rescue program. After 12 years of community dedication, OFRE has grown the program larger than they can maintain as a volunteer board. Leftovers' Home Harvest program will be launching this summer in Edmonton and will be taking on facilitation of backyard fruit rescue. This partnership and transition will allow for the expansion of backyard fruit rescue while maintaining the values and community-centred approach built by OFRE.

OFRE was established in 2009 as a non-profit organization. Their work grew out of an interest in locally grown food, raising awareness about food security, and establishing urban, local connections with our food. OFRE will continue to offer a variety of programs including educational workshops, cider pressing events, and organized group fruit picks.

The Leftovers Foundation is one of Canada's largest tech-enabled food rescue charities with the goal of reducing food waste and increasing access. The Leftovers Rescue Food App allows volunteers to pick up good food from donors and drop it off at service agencies that get it into the hands of our neighbours and community members who need it most.

The partnership between OFRE and Leftovers is vital to backyard food rescuing because of OFRE's wealth of knowledge and connections, and Leftovers' innovative tech-based solution for rescuing and redirecting food.

The Home Harvest program allows for community members with gardens or fruit trees to sign up on the Leftovers website to have their produce harvested. A minimum of half of the harvested food will be donated to a service agency and the other half may be split between the grower and the volunteer (grower's decision). As a grower, you are actively reducing food waste and food insecurity—it's good for you, the community, and the environment.

Volunteering to harvest food will be free to anyone and volunteers will have the ability to take home some of the food. All that is needed to volunteer is the Leftovers Rescue Food app! More information about OFRE's continued programs and Leftovers' Home Harvest program can be found at OFRE's website and Leftovers' website. Leftovers and OFRE look forward to nurturing the urban orchard with you, our community!

If you have any questions, please contact:

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HOME HARVEST

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

OPERATION *FRUIT* *RESCUE* **EDMONTON**

FINDING *the* FRUIT HIDDEN IN OUR CITY