Thank you for your interest in a food drive to help those less fortunate in our community.

Our Vision: End Hunger in Westmoreland County.

This information was assembled to encourage more donations and simplify the process for the facilitator.

If you have any questions, please contact Louise Wilhelm at 724-468-8660, Ext. 13 or louise@westmorelandfoodbank.org. For a food pick up contact Doug Miller at Ext. 26.

Steps for a successful food drive:

1. Appoint someone to be in charge. Let them be creative!

2. Learn more about Westmoreland County Food Bank and what we do. Our website is full of information.

3. Set a goal for your drive. (monetary and/or food)

4. Choose your date/s for the food drive. Food is needed year-round.

5. Motivate your group by offering incentives. (optional)

6. Decide if you would like to collect specific types of items and/or monetary donations.

7. Place collection bins in key locations. We have bins with our logo on them or boxes available for your use upon request. (20” W x 20” D x 30” H)

8. Advertise your food drive to those who might participate. Use posters, email blasts, flyers, stickers, newsletters, internal website, or distribute bags, etc.

9. Make arrangements for delivery/pick up of donated food. See contact above. Warehouse hours are M-F between 8-3 p.m.
Suggested Themes:

- Golf- “Fore” the Hungry
- Football- Tackle Hunger
- Kids- Kick in for the Kids
- Baseball- Pitch in Food
- Olympics- Food is Gold
- Thanksgiving- Gobbler Drive

Specific Types of Drives:

- **Paper Drive**- only collect paper items, such as toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, tissues, etc.
- **Toiletries Drive**- only collect soap, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.
- **Turkey Drive**- collect monies to have WCFB purchase turkeys for families during the holidays.
- **Thanksgiving Drive**- only collect items for Thanksgiving Dinner, excluding the Turkey
- **Soap Drive**- collect detergents, soap and non toxic cleaning supplies, etc.
- **Summer Food Service Program for Kids(May)**- collect items needed for sites, such as dishwashing detergent, Clorox bleach, paper towels, garbage bags, etc.

Incentives encourage participation. Some suggested incentives are:

- Anyone who donates, receives a chance to win a raffle for a gift certificate, ½ day off work, dress-down day, amusement park tickets, movie tickets, etc.
- Corporation matches $ for pound or $ for $.
- Create a competition between departments, with the winner receiving a pizza party or other special recognition.
- Give a patch to scouts who participate.

Creative Food & Funds Drive Ideas:

- **Denim Days or Dress Down Days** for donation.
- **Executive Service**: Give a donation and have your meal served to you by your boss or principal.
- **Ice Cream Day**: Give a donation for all the scrumptious ice cream and toppings they would like.
- **Game Night/Lunch**: Play cards, games provide refreshments, give prizes and charge everyone $10 entrance fee
- **Rock the Vote**: Have people vote with donations for an executive or teacher who will have to complete an agreed upon activity. Hit with pie, shave face, kiss a cow.
- **Canstructure**: Have different depts./grades build items out of donated canned goods. Then vote with money on the structure they like best. Winner gets a prize.
**Monetary Donations:**
Cash or check donations made payable to WCFB are also accepted and can be forwarded to our Delmont office at Westmoreland County Food Bank, 100 Devonshire Drive, Delmont, PA 15626.

**Email Blasts/Flyer:**
In this day of technology, what better way to reach 100's of people at a time who may want to participate in your food drive. We have created an email blast for your convenience that can be customized. Just ask Louise to email it to you. You may also consider creating one all your own. An 8 ½” X 11” flyer is available upon request.

**Scout Patches:**
Generic “food drive” or “community service” patches are available and must be ordered at scouting offices in your community.

**Posters:**
For your convenience, we have also designed a poster that can be placed at strategic locations throughout your location/facility. This is available upon request.

**Collection Bins:**
We suggest large boxes or watermelon bins, if you expect a lot of food. The food bank has a limited number of food drive receptacles available for this purpose. Just let us know.

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**Food Drive Guidelines**

**Suggested items needed:**

**Food Items:**
- Canned tuna, chicken or salmon
- Peanut butter
- Cereal
- Canned fruits & vegetables
- Macaroni & cheese
- Canned Meals (Stew, Ravioli)
- Boxed Meals (Hamburger Helper)

**Non Food Items:**
- Body soap
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Diapers
- Feminine products
- Toilet tissue
- Paper towels
- Laundry and dish detergent

**All donated items must:**

- Be non-perishable.
- Have original manufacturer’s label. If the label of an item is missing, we will not be able to redistribute the item.
- Be free from obvious defect or contamination. This could include “popped tops” on cans, bloated cans, mold or rust on cans, bottles, etc.

**We cannot accept the following:**
- Homemade goods or home canned goods.
- Any item that has been opened or the seal is broken
- Pesticides/herbicides, Toxic chemicals like motor oil or oven cleaners
- Prescription drugs
- Alcoholic beverages

*When boxing, please separate soaps from food products!*
Facts about Westmoreland County Food Bank

- Our vision is to end hunger in Westmoreland County.
- Your $1 donation converts to $5 of food for us, since we can buy in bulk.
- Your $5 donation equals 8 meals.
- 96 cents of every dollar is used for food.
- $65 is our average cost for one family's monthly food box.
- For 35 years we have served the needy in Westmoreland County.
- We have distributed, annually, approximately 7 to 8 million pounds of food through our programs.
- We serve as many as 7200 households or approximately 16,500 individuals each month through our 44 pantry sites and 22 other agencies, including soup kitchens, child care programs and 4 shelters.
- Approximately 4000 are children, who are considered at risk and in need of nutritious food to develop properly.
- Many are the working poor, seniors, disabled or unemployed.
- Approximately 50% of our food is acquired through federal and state programs. The rise in the cost of food, transportation and utilities, an increase of people needing food, in addition to the loss of federally purchased commodities has created the “perfect storm” for food banks across the United States.
- We must depend on food drives and the support of the community to meet our needs.
- We are partners with Feeding America, the nation’s food bank network, United Way of Westmoreland County as well as, Feeding PA and PA Association of Regional Food Banks (PARF).
- We are governed by a volunteer board of directors and have 24 staff.
- We advocate for the poor and are actively involved in legislations both at the state and federal levels.
- Over 7000 valued volunteers gave a total of approximately 100,000 hours of service last year.

WCFB programs include:

- **Monthly Pantry Distribution Program** provides a monthly food box to households who meet our income guidelines, which are at 150% of the federal poverty level.
- **Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)** is a state funded program providing seniors with extra food, who meet income guidelines.
- **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** is a federal program serving children lunch and/or breakfast during the summer at approximately 18 sites in the county.
- **Operation Fresh Express** is a mobile food distribution program providing households with fresh produce, perishables, etc. on a weekly basis somewhere in the county.
- **Super Cupboard Program** is a joint effort between Penn State Nutrition Links and WCFB, assisting families on their road to independence. This program is being offered to families with children under the age of 18 at various locations throughout the county.
- **Backpack Program** provides children with food during the school year on weekends. It is distributed at the end of the school day on Fridays.
- **Gleaning** is when volunteers gather what is left in the fields for the sake of the hungry. Many local farms participate.

Please consider donating to:

Westmoreland County Food Bank
100 Devonshire Drive
Delmont, PA 15626
724-468-8660
[www.westmorelandfoodbank.org](http://www.westmorelandfoodbank.org)
Help a child who’s hungry...

Westmoreland County Food Bank, Inc.
Ending Hunger Here at Home

Food Drive

Sponsored by:

Dates:

Nonperishable items only!
Canned Chicken, Tuna or Salmon, Peanut Butter, Cereal, Canned Vegetables or Fruits, Mac n Cheese, Boxed Meals, Canned Meals

Donate online at
westmorelandfoodbank.org