

# Put Good Fruit to Good Use 2020:

## *Fruit Tree Harvest Program on Denman Island*

The goal of this food security program is to put good fruit, that otherwise would go unpicked and unused, to good use on Denman Island. The program is organized by the Denman Island Growers and Producers Alliance.

**How does it work?** If you have an apple, pear, plum, or nut tree that you won't be able to use, or can't pick, register your tree with our organization, and we'll pick it for you. The fruit is typically split 3 ways: 1/3 shared among the volunteers for their hard work, 1/3 to the GPA, and up to 1/3 stays with the owner if they want it. This year we'll be following all the recommended COVID-19 social distancing recommendations and the U-pick guidelines released by the Ministry of Agriculture.

**Who does the picking?** The GPA gathers a team of enthusiastic volunteers who pick the fruit. The team bring their own ladders and boxes with them, follow all recommended social distancing procedures and always aim to leave the yard as they found it.

**Can I volunteer to help pick?** Yes please! We'd love to hear from you. Drop us a line at [islandagriculture@gmail.com](mailto:islandagriculture@gmail.com) to volunteer.

**What does the GPA do with their share of the harvest?** The GPA works to improve food security on Denman Island, and partners with community organizations that distribute food to vulnerable populations, such as the Food Bank. The GPA also uses the fruit in their fundraising initiatives which go to support "Denman Feeding Denman" initiatives.

**When does the picking happen?** The GPA will be organizing picks in throughout the harvest season from late August until October, depending on when your trees are ripe! The exact day and time can be worked out with the harvest leader when you email [islandagriculture@gmail.com](mailto:islandagriculture@gmail.com).

### **Will you pick any tree on my property?**

We prioritize picking high quality fruit that is suitable for sharing in our community- think of this as a food security initiative rather than racoon prevention program! The safety of our volunteers is also paramount, so we reserve the right to decline picking a tree that is too tall or too difficult to access.

Please register with us before your tree starts dropping fruit on the ground, as we are not able to use windfalls.

**Have questions? Contact the GPA through e-mail at [islandagriculture@gmail.com](mailto:islandagriculture@gmail.com).**

# Register your fruit tree for gleaning:

Name:

Preferred method of contact (phone/e-mail):

Address:

How many fruit trees are you registering: *If you have more than 5 we may want to make special arrangements.*

Tell us what you know about the tree: *For example, if you know the type of fruit, or when it's ripe.*

Estimate the tree height and size, estimate how much fruit it's producing: *For example, how many banana boxes might be filled.*

Any special property notes: *For example, is there a dog on site we should be aware of? How is the tree accessed? Is it possible to drive up to it?*

Do you have a spot we can rake the compost into? Please elaborate:

How much would you like of the harvest?

5% - 10% - 15% - 20% - 25% - 30% - donate all

**Return this form to the Free Post under "GPA" at Abraxas or e-mail us the answers!**

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