

## **GLEANNING SEASON IS UPON US**

The Gleaning Program 2010 is a joint project of:

Nanaimo Foodshare Society

Nanaimo Community Gardens Society

Nanaimo has an abundance of fruit, nuts and vegetables growing in backyards and farmers fields throughout the region. Often gardeners and farmers grow more than they can use or share and the surplus goes to waste. In our current economic climate, hunger and poverty are a serious concern and people line up at local food banks.

The gleaning program was launched in 2003 to help community members access and share surplus produce. Volunteer gleaners pick produce and share some with family, friends and neighbours. A significant amount of produce is donated to local agencies such as the food bank.

To date, the program has harvested more than 72,000 pounds of fruit, vegetable and nuts and 14 community agencies have received food. Thanks to all volunteers who have made this program so successful so far.

### **DO YOU WANT TO HELP?**

Become a gleaner!

Volunteer gleaners must be willing to attend one brief orientation and safety session, and join as a member of the Nanaimo Community Gardens Society and Nanaimo Foodshare Society. Once registered, gleaners will be invited on organized picks throughout the season. Call early as spots are limited.

Share your produce!

If you have (or anticipate having) more fruits, nuts or vegetables than you can use, please call the Gleaning Program. We will do our best to link you with volunteers willing to pick. Advance notice is needed to allow time to coordinate the picks. Also consider registering your fruit tree in preparation for next year.

Contact the Gleaning Program at 250-816-4769 or [gleaning@nanaimocommunitygardens.ca](mailto:gleaning@nanaimocommunitygardens.ca) for more information, to register your tree or to become a gleaner for 2010.