



HARVEST DRIVE HARVEST DAYS

Tips On How to Run A Successful Harvest Day

Harvest Drive Harvest days are sidewalk solicitation at a local Publix, Walmart or any other store that sells nonperishable food. Collections are done typically on the weekends but can also be done any day after school. They are set up by the distribution site coordinator and run by students who help in the collection process.

Below are steps to take to have a successful Harvest Day:

1. Look at your school calendar to pick the best dates to reserve your Harvest Days. These dates typically occur from mid-October to the first weekend of November.
2. Assign a point person to contact your local grocery stores to reserve the dates. Some sites have utilized students to make these connections. Since stores like Publix book up quickly throughout the year we advise that your dates are confirmed no later than the mid to end of August.
3. Invite clubs from your school to work your Harvest Days. If you have several ask some of your feeder schools if they would like to invite students from their clubs to help assist in the collections. (Volunteer hours can be given.)
4. Set up a remind or signup genius for the students to sign up in shifts. We recommend 2 – 3-hour shifts with 4 – 6 students at each shift. This way if someone calls in sick you still have coverage. Also arrange for other faculty or parents to help supervise the students during each shift.
5. Have students make signs advertising your school is collecting for Harvest Drive with some items that you would like to collect. Also have a tabling box to bring to each Harvest Day containing collections flyers, sharpies, container to hold any money that is collected, table decorations and maybe a fall tablecloth. Note that you will also need to bring your own table and chairs.
6. Upon arrival in the morning of your Harvest Day go to Customer Service and check in with the manager on duty letting them know you are there. They will let you know which side of the store that you are allowed to set up your table.
7. After setting up have a student go to produce and request their empty banana boxes. These are great size boxes to use while collecting at the store. We recommend the students sort the collections in these boxes as they receive them. Once a box is full put the top on and label what is in them.
8. If you receive any items in a glass jar you may bring them to customer service that day and ask to exchange them for another item. Typically, they will give you a store gift card to purchase those items.
9. At the end of the day take all your collections and supplies even if you are going back the next day as most stores will not have a place for you to store them. Decide who will hold any funds collected until your group returns to school. Funds collected are used to purchase any shortages of a specific food item that your site may have.
10. Let the store know that you are done and look forward to working with them again.

HAPPY HARVEST