

# PRODUCE RESCUE

## WHAT IS RETAIL PRODUCE?

Retail produce is donated by retailers and wholesalers, typically because it can no longer be sold on shelves or because there is surplus of product. It consists of a mix of produce items, including whole (e.g., bagged potatoes and heads of lettuce) and cut produce (e.g., vegetable trays and salad kits).

## HOW IT WORKS

1

The Agency Partner picks up the produce from the retailer and brings it back to their site

2

Staff and volunteers sort through the produce and distribute what was rescued to neighbors.



**NOTE:** Retail produce is stored in its original packaging and pallets from the retailer and is not always sorted through.

## TIPS

### What can be rescued?

- Imperfections, odd shapes, and slight scarring or bruising, and minor discoloration.
- Whole produce can be received at temperatures between 50-70°F.

### What should be discarded?

- Mold, split skin, signs of insects, decay or rot, severe bruising, soft or mushy, slimy, wilted, or shriveled.
- Cut produce that was not received at 41°F.

*If your agency is discarding excessive amounts of produce, please alert Dare to Care.*

## AFTER THE RETAIL PRODUCE ARRIVES AT THE AGENCY PARTNER SITE...

Staff and volunteers inspect the produce and salvage as much as possible.

### SAVE



a few bruises and slight speckling



slight dent



spots on outer surface, odd shapes

Find more produce handling tips here!

SCAN ME



### DISCARD



overripe or chill damaged



mold and bruises

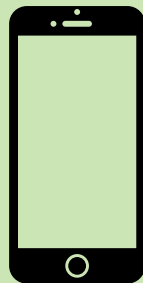


mold and rot

SCAN ME



Find more information on receiving, inspecting, storing, and handling produce! Use a mobile device to scan the **QR code** above.



**Customer Service Tip:** Retail produce contains a wide variety of items, and it's unlikely that every neighbor will receive the same item. It's crucial to have an established procedure for managing neighbor expectations and ensuring their satisfaction. Consider allowing the neighbors to choose their produce items.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A



PRODUCE RESCUE HERO

Questions?  
Contact the  
Partner  
Development  
Team!

*Hope starts here.*