

Food Drive Worksheet

Thank you for offering to host a food drive to benefit CRS. As the primary food pantry serving Avon and Avon Lake, we rely heavily on donations from outside groups to keep our pantry shelves stocked throughout the year. We've put together some tips to help as you begin planning your drive. If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to call our office at (440) 933-5639, and ask for Cece Carlson, or email her at ccarlson@aalcrs.org.

What to do:

First, decide when you want to have your food drive. Contact CRS to see when would be a good time. There are certain times of the year where a lot of organizations hold drives, like Thanksgiving. If possible, your group might want to consider having a food drive during a less popular time of year.

Decide what items you want to collect. You can hold a general food drive or you might want to consider holding a specialty drive. See the food drive suggestion list below.

Contact CRS to plan a delivery date for your food drive to make sure there is staff on hand. Keep in mind that CRS has limited hours so we might need to make special arrangements for your delivery. Give yourself a few extra days after the end date of your drive for late items. Our address is 33479 Lake Rd. Suite C, Avon Lake.

Start advertising your food drive a couple weeks before and place your collection box in a visible location. Please be sure to include a statement in your promotion about checking expiration dates. We kindly ask that people don't donate expired food. It's easier to advertise this ahead of time than to have our food sorters spend time and energy identifying and disposing of expired items.

Send us your info:

Start date

End Date

Items to collect

Delivery Date

The following items are always in need and are great for a general food drive:

Canned Fruits, Stews, Chili, Meats, Canned Pastas, Mac & Cheese, PB&J, Spaghetti Sauce, Side dishes, Cereal, Snacks for Kids.

If you want to have a specialty drive, consider one of the following:

- Breakfast items: cereal, oatmeal, pancakes & syrup, pop tarts, breakfast bars
- Canned Fruit: this is something we are always in need of
- Peanut Butter & Jelly – we can never have too much PB&J
- Paper Products: toilet paper, paper towels, kleenex, napkins
- Diapers & Wipes – Sizes 4 & 5. Adult Diapers – L & XL
- Toiletry Items: shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste & toothbrushes, soap, razors, deodorant
- Cleaning Products: dish soap, laundry detergent, all purpose cleaners