Do you have or know of a fruit tree loaded with ripe fruit that goes to waste each year?

Want to learn about the tools and methods for doing a DIY fruit harvest in your own neighborhood?

Welcome to the PFTP DIY Fruit Harvest Kit!

Portland Fruit Tree Project is excited to present our DIY Fruit Harvest Kit! Our goal is to empower you, with the information & skills needed to harvest fruit in your yards and neighborhoods.

There are thousands of trees in the Portland area whose fruit is not picked and goes to waste. You can help prevent this and benefit too! Check with the tree owners and offer to harvest the ripe fruit. Share the bounty, donate some to a food pantry, and bring the rest home to eat and preserve for later.

You can harvest by yourself, but inviting friends and family to join you will provide a safer and much more enjoyable experience. The joy and satisfaction you feel by helping your neighbors, along with the reward of bags of fresh, locally grown apples, pears, quince and persimmons... is totally worth the effort.

Let’s get harvesting!

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Many of the items needed to harvest ripe fruit trees are probably already in your garage, basement or garden shed. If you don’t have a “fruit picker pole” they can be rented at various Portland Tool Libraries, purchased pretty reasonably at local hardware stores, or you can make your own! Visit https://youtu.be/KHgk9apqYJA or http://www.instructables.com/id/Net-Fruit-Picker/ for fruit picker tutorials.

Once you are familiar with the items needed and their purpose, flip to the next page for an instructional guide on how to harvest fruit and the different causes of blemishes or signs of disease.

**Tarp**  
*Optional*—To catch fallen fruit. Lay out underneath tree you will be harvesting.

**Apron**  
*Optional*—To hold fruit in while harvesting.

**Containers for fruit**  
To store fruit in while harvesting. This will depend on the variety of fruit; Softer bodies fruits such as grapes/figs are best stored in shallow containers or egg cartons.

**Compost bucket (or equivalent)**  
To toss fallen fruit or fruit past their prime.

**Rag**  
To clean your harvest/fruit picker pole.

**Gloves**  
*Optional*—To pick up fallen or compost fruit.

**Harvest/Fruit Picker Pole**  
*Available for rent at the various Portland Tool Libraries, see page 6*  
To harvest delicious fruit!
HOW-TO HARVEST

1. Twist pole clockwise, extend if able and necessary. Wood or fiberglass poles may differ.

2. First, pick as much fruit by hand. Then, position fruit between prongs, lift up & twist.

3. Continue to pick fruit until basket is full and give yourself a stretch break every now and then.

4. Empty contents into harvest container and avoid stacking too high, the fruit may bruise.
There is a difference between “ugly” and diseased fruit. If you are not sure if a piece of fruit has a pest or disease problem, cut it open. See the following page for more pest/disease specifics. If you donate to food pantries, save the highest quality for donation. Use these tips to determine fruit quality.

**The Three Category Sort**

- **COMPOST**: 75% or more has blemishes, infected by pest/disease, or overripe. 25% is lookin’ good! Either to be composted or used*
- **Ok**: 50% has blemishes or overripe. 50% is lookin’ good! The Ok Quality is edible and can be processed but not fit for donations
- **Good**: Only 25% has blemishes. 75% or more is lookin’ good! Good* quality should be reserved for fruit donations

*With all blemishes it is **up to your discretion** to cut out affected areas or compost.
# FRUIT QUALITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What's that flaw on my fruit?</th>
<th>What's it look like?</th>
<th>What's Ugly?</th>
<th>What might it be?</th>
<th>What to do?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cracks or Scarring</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Cracks or Scarring" /></td>
<td>Apple Scab</td>
<td>Weather Damage</td>
<td>This can happen to fruit when a drastic fluctuation in humidity occurs or the fruit tree receives insufficient water. May be the later stages of Apple Scab. Fruit is still good to eat but up to your discretion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scabs</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Scabs" /></td>
<td>Apple Scab</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scab is a common disease in pome fruits (apples, pears, etc.). Although scab looks unappealing, the fruit is still edible and up to your discretion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown spots</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Brown spots" /></td>
<td>Bruise</td>
<td>Anthracnose</td>
<td>Brown spots may either indicate disease or a pest. Presence of spots could be a variety of issues including codling moth, scabs, fungal rot, etc. Cut open to determine severity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Early Stages Apple Maggot</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holes</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Holes" /></td>
<td>Bird Damage</td>
<td>Insect Entry</td>
<td>Holes in fruit are indicators of a pest, usually codling moth. A codling moth will enter the fruit through the hole and feast. Cut open to determine severity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Codling Moth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indentations or Dimples</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Indentations or Dimples" /></td>
<td>Apple Maggot</td>
<td>Natural Imperfection</td>
<td>If a fruit looks somewhat shriveled and indented this could be an indication of apple maggot. Cut open to determine severity. It could also be a naturally misshapen fruit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Listed below are some local resources that will enhance your DIY experience. Visit one of Portland’s Tool Libraries for necessary supplies - they provide free services for residents of local neighborhoods. Check to see which one is closest to you and get a fruit picking pole and other materials you may need. Keep in mind that each location may only have a few harvest poles available for rent. Check out the Kitchen Share for processing equipment and turn your fruit into delicious treats!

**Southeast Portland Tool Library**

Hours: **Saturdays 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM** and **Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:30-7:30 PM**.

Location: On the corner of SE 20th and Salmon at 1137 SE 20th Ave within the Hinson Memorial Baptist Church

*Return your picking pole to SEPTL! 1 week rental overdue fine $2/week*

**Green Lents Tool Library**

Hours: **Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 PM, Saturdays 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Sundays 10:00 AM—1:00 PM (Sundays June-Oct)**

Location: 9215 SE Ramona St

*Return your picking pole to Green Lents! 1 week rentals and the overdue fine is $2/week*

**Northeast Portland Tool Library**

Hours: **Saturdays 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM** and **Tuesdays and Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 PM**.

Location: Room B-8 (Basement) in Leaven Community Center at 5431 NE 20th Ave

*Return your picking pole to NEPTL! 1 week rentals and the overdue fine is $2/week*

**Northeast Kitchen Share**

Hours: **Saturdays 9:00 AM—11:00 AM and Wednesday 5:30—7:30 PM**.

Location: Room B-3 (Basement) of Leaven Community Center at 5431 NE 20th Ave

They offer dehydrators, canning equipment, ice-cream makers, juicers to turn your HIY into a preservation party!

A little clean-up goes a long way. Toss any fallen or poor quality fruit in the compost, this way you won’t attract unwanted pests. Make sure to wash off your picking pole before you return it, and don’t forget to return it! Most locations will charge a $2.00 weekly fine. Give yourself a pat on the back, sit back, and enjoy the harvest.
If you are committed to harvesting your fruit trees time and time again, consider investing in your very own fruit picker pole. You may also want to get good gloves, buckets, pruning shears and a tall ladder. Then you will have the tools you need to conduct multiple harvests throughout the season.

### Portland Hardware Stores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hardware Store</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Hankins Hardware True Value           | 1720 SE Hawthorne Blvd| 503-236-2372 | M-F 8–6 PM  
SAT 8:30-6PM  
SUN 10-4 PM |
| Parkrose Hardware                     | 10625 NE Sandy Blvd   | 503-256-3103 | M-SAT 7-8 PM  
SUN 8-6 PM |
| Beaumont Do it Best Hardware          | 4303 NE Fremont St    | 503-281-4406 | M-F 8-6 PM  
SAT 8-5 PM  
SUN 9-4 PM |
| St. John’s Ace Hardware               | 7825 N Lombard St     | 503-206-8633 | M-F 8-8 PM  
SAT 8-7 PM  
SUN 9-6 PM |
| W.C. Wink’s Hardware                  | 200 SE Stark St       | 503-227-5536 | M-F 7:30-5:30 PM |

If you are unable to harvest your fruit trees, don’t worry about the fruit going to waste. You can list your tree on different community networks and let people know that your fruit is accessible to others. There are many gleaners in Portland.

- **Craigslist**—You can post in “For Sale By Owner” => “Free” that you have a fruit tree needing harvesting
- **Nextdoor**—A free network to get to know your neighbors and share resources
- Facebook – Check for neighborhood pages in your area
- Rooster – A neighborhood resource for sharing and connecting
- Neighborhood Association Pages in Portland:  https://www.portlandoregon.gov/oni/28385
LOCAL RESOURCES
Donation Resources

There really is nothing like fresh, hand-picked fruit. Share it with your neighbors and your local community food pantries! Every piece makes a difference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Resources</th>
<th>Portland Food Pantries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NE</strong></td>
<td><strong>SE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEFP</td>
<td>Urban Gleaners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossroads Cupboard</td>
<td>15 SE 6th Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2407 NE 102nd Ave</td>
<td>503-226-8061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503-257-9345</td>
<td>M-F 9AM - 5PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE/TH/SAT 9AM - 5PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2407 NE 102nd Ave</td>
<td>503-257-9345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TH/F 9AM - 12PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SW</strong></td>
<td>SnowCap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SnowCap</td>
<td>St. Francis Dining Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17788 SE Pine St</td>
<td>330 SE 11th Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503-674-8785</td>
<td>503-234-2028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M-F 9AM - 3PM</td>
<td>M-F 10AM-7PM, SUN 12-4PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M-F 9AM - 5PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NW</strong></td>
<td>Neighborhood House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisters of the Road</td>
<td>7780 SW Capitol Hwy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>133 NW 6th Ave</td>
<td>503-246-1663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503-222-5694</td>
<td>M 1:30-5PM, W 10AM-5:30PM, TH 4-8PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M-F 7AM-2:45PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland Rescue Mission</td>
<td>111 W Burnside St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503-906-7690</td>
<td>Everyday 7AM - 7:45PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>N</strong></td>
<td>St. Johns Food Share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Johns Food Share</td>
<td>8100 N Lombard St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503-286-0750</td>
<td>M/W/F 9AM - 12:30PM, SAT 1PM - 3PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/W/F 10AM - 4:30PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Moore St Center</td>
<td>5335 N Williams Ave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>503-493-3925</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Share the Harvest!

www.portlandfruit.org | Portland Fruit Tree Project | 503-284-6106
We hope you had a good time harvesting-it-yourself! We'd love to hear a few details about your harvest and get a sense of your experience. Thank you for your input! Please print out this page, fill out what you can, and mail it to:

5431 NE 20th Ave, Portland, OR, 97211

Name: ___________________________ Phone: _____________ Date of harvest: _____________
Email: ___________________________ Address (of the tree): ___________________________

What type of tree did you harvest and how many?
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Did you harvest your own fruit tree?
_____________________________________________________________________________________

With who did you harvest? Check the box below.
___ Just me     ___ 2-5 people      ___ 6-10 people     ___ 10+ people

Do you know roughly how many pounds you harvested? (A paper bag 75% filled with fruit is roughly 20 lbs., a milk crate 75% filled with fruit is about 40 lbs.)
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Would you participate in a HIY again? Why or why not?
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Anything else you want to share?
_____________________________________________________________________________________

You can also fill this form out online by clicking this link