



TOWN OF AMHERST

Helping Amherst Residents In Need, Resources Available

Donations Needed as Local Food Pantries Try to Meet Demand

(Amherst, NY) – The Town of Amherst reminds residents that help is available for those who are struggling. The Town has several food pantries throughout the Town ([click here for a list of locations](#)) that coordinate with FeedMore WNY to provide ongoing support.

“Food insecurity impacts many of our neighbors, and right now the situation is overwhelming for many families. As the need grows and more families find themselves seeking help, the Town of Amherst and our community partners are here to help. We need to get the word out that assistance is available while at the same time reminding our generous residents that donations are desperately needed. Together, we can support our neighbors through this difficult time,” said Deputy Supervisor Shawn Lavin.

“Help is available. Our goal is to make sure that residents know where to go for assistance. Our religious organizations, school districts and many support agencies are working hard to ensure we are helping everyone in need. It truly takes a village. If anyone is having trouble locating information or resources, they can contact our department for help,” said Youth and Recreation Department Executive Director Mary Diana Pouli.

“The Senior Center has numerous resources available to help meet seniors’ needs. We ask them to please call our center at (716) 636-3070 so we can identify their needs and connect them with help. The first step is making that important phone call,” said Melissa Abel, Director of the Amherst Center for Senior Services.

If you are able to help, please consider donating at one of the **Community Food Drives:**

Amherst Center for Senior Services, 370 JJ Audubon Parkway, Amherst

- Collecting non-perishable food donations for Amherst seniors:
 - Shelf-stable foods: cereal, oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, crackers, peanut butter, jelly/jam;
 - Canned goods: pasta sauce, soup, vegetables, tuna, chicken
 - Instant packets: rice, pasta, mashed potatoes, mac & cheese.

Items can be dropped off at the Senior Center on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The collection basket in the main lobby near the café. During after-hours, please place donations in the storage tote located outside the Center’s main entrance.

Amherst Town Hall, 5583 Main Street, Williamsville

- Donations can be dropped off at the Supervisor’s Office or Councilmember’s Office during regular business hours, 8 AM to 4 PM Monday-Friday.

Amherst Police Department, 500 JJ Audubon Parkway, Amherst and Pickup Available

- The Amherst Police Department is partnering with FeedMore WNY to collect non-perishable food for families in need from November 10–17. Amherst homeowners can place your donation bag on their porch and call (716) 689-1322 to have an officer pick it up during their tours. Donations also accepted at 500 JJ Audubon Pkwy.
 - Needed items applesauce, boxed stuffing mix, broth or stock, cake or muffin mixes, canned fruit or pie filling, canned vegetables, canned yams, cornbread mix, cranberry sauce or jelly, gravy (cans or packets), instant potatoes, and whole grain pasta or rice.

Carousel, 6094 Main Street, Williamsville

- Local business Carousel announced on Facebook it would be collecting non-perishable food items for local food pantries from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1. www.facebook.com/carouselwillamsville.

FeedMore WNY

- Residents can make a monetary donation online at www.feedmorewny.org/donate. Visit the website to learn more about how monetary donations support their mission.
- The 20th annual Rock Out Hunger food drive will be held November 18-25 at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, 1540 Maple Road, Amherst. For more information, visit www.feedmorewny.org/get-involved/rock-out-hunger.

Additionally, Amherst has Little Free Pantry locations and Blessing Box sites that are independently operated by community groups. Information: <https://www.littlefreepantry.org>.

- **Amherst Little Free Pantry**, Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst, 6320 Main St., Williamsville. Open 24/7, this pantry stocks non-perishable foods, including canned veggies, canned fruit, pasta, peanut butter and jelly, essential toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, bar soap), baby items (diapers, baby food), dog food and toilet paper. Merchandise can change daily but they try to stock these items regularly. For information, amherstlittlefreepantry@uuamherst.org.
- **Willow Ridge Free Little Food Pantry** at Amherst Baptist Church, 100 Willow Ridge Drive, Amherst, NY 14228. Serving the local community who are in need of a meal 24/7.
- **Asbury United Methodist Church**, 850 Dodge Road, Amherst. The first Sunday of the month is Food Pantry Sunday at Asbury UMC. It collects nonperishable food items and distribute them to different food pantries in the area.

For additional information, please visit www.amherst.ny.us; email toainfo@amherst.ny.us or call 716-631-7032.