

Food Assistance Programs

Backpack Food Program

Serves All ISD77 Schools, Blue Earth County Elementary Schools, & Middle Schools in St. Clair, Mapleton, & Lake Crystal.

Each pack supplies breakfast, lunch, and snacks for weekends and school breaks during the school year.

Contact: 507-720-8511

Website: <http://www.feedingourcommunitiespartners.org/backpack-food-program.html>

Campus Cupboard

Food shelf designed by students for students

One bag of food, once each week.

Student ID required. Schedule a time to pick up groceries and personal care items.

Lower level of the Cross Roads Campus Ministry, 331 Dillion Ave. Mankato, MN, 56001 (located next to the Performing Arts Building and across from Trafton Hall on campus)

Contact: 507-625-6779

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/campuscupboard/>

Cleveland Area Food Shelf

Township Hall Basement, 205 4th St, Cleveland

To make an appointment: Contact: Jim at (507) 931-5989 or City Hall (507) 931-6380.

ECHO Food Shelf

Serves Blue Earth County and North Mankato residents.

1014 S Front Street, Mankato

Register for assistance: attend in person and bring proof of identity (driver's license or photo id).

Make an appointment after registered. Each household can visit 12 times per year (July 1-June 30) for standard food assistance, plus once/week for ECHO Extras (fresh produce & baked goods).

Walk-ins always welcome.

Contact: 507-345-7508

Website: <https://www.echofoodshelf.org/>

Fare for All

Fare For All is a monthly discounted grocery program.

Serves everyone. Cooperative model save 40% or more on groceries. Purchase discounted meats, veggies, and general grocery packages.

Sales are held at:

Hosanna Lutheran Church

105 Hosanna Drive, Mankato

Fare for All 2025 dates:

January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May 19, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 17, December 15

Contact: 763-450-3880, or email: info@fareforall.org,

Website: <https://fareforall.org/find-a-site/>

Food for All/PACT Ministries

Food for All is a food program that is funded by the proceeds from the Neighborhood Thrift Store. Everyone is welcome.

Goodrich Construction, 1700 3rd Ave., Mankato

2nd Saturday of month: 9:00am but line-up starting at 8:30am

The cost is \$5 cash per family. Bring a basket, box or tote to carry your food.

Volunteers are available to carry food to your vehicle upon request.

Website: <https://www.neighborhoodthriftstoremankato.com/food-for-all/>

Holy Grounds

Centenary United Methodist Church hosts a free breakfast Monday through Saturday.

501 S. 2nd Street, Mankato.

Monday – Saturday: 9-10am

- Free Wi-Fi and newspaper
- Assistance with community resources
- Showers
- Basic needs related to winter gear, toiletries, and some clothing also available

Contact: 507-225-6370

Website: <https://www.mankatoholygrounds.org/>

Homestyle Direct

Ready-to-eat meals are shipped frozen directly to the customer's doorstep via UPS.

Their nutritional options include: low-calorie, low-fat, carb-controlled, gluten-restricted, sodium-controlled and renal options.

Accepts Medicaid and Medicare Advantage plans, waivers and private pay.

Contact: 1-866-735-0921

Website: <https://www.homestyledirect.com/>

Hot Meals on Wheels – VINE

Serves Mankato, North Mankato, Skyline, Le Hillier, and Eagle Lake (no age or income requirements).

Delivers noon meal each weekday

Contact: 507-387-4076

Website: <https://vinevolunteers.org/services/hot-meals-on-wheels/>

Hunger Solutions Searchable Help Map

Website: <http://www.hungersolutions.org/find-help/>

Enter zip code to search for food assistance programs near you.

Janesville Community Food Shelf

Located in: Trinity Lutheran Church

412 North Main Street, Janesville

Thursday: 1-3pm

2nd Thursday of the month: 6-7pm

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month: 1-3pm

Contact: [507-521-1107](tel:507-521-1107)

LeCenter Food Shelf

15 S Park Ave, Le Center

Serves residents of Le Center and Le Sueur County

1st Monday of the month: 1-3pm

Wednesday: 6-7:30pm

Contact: [507-357-4076](tel:507-357-4076)

LeSueur Food Shelf

427 South 5th Street, Le Sueur

Serves residents of Le Sueur and surrounding area.

Tuesday & Thursday: 2-3:30pm

Contact: 507-665-6441

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/feedingLeSueur/>

Madelia Community Food Shelf

423 Dill Ave SW, Madelia, MN, USA

4th Wednesday of the month: 3:30- 5:30pm

[Visit Madelia Community Food Shelf Website](#)

Maple River Loaves & Fishes

Serves Good Thunder, Amboy, Mapleton, & Beauford

Tuesday: 3-6pm

Saturday: 10-12Noon

Contact: 507-524-3046,

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Maple-River-Loaves-Fishes-Food-Shelf-100064826072995/>

Maverick Food Pantry at Minnesota State University Mankato

142 Carkoski Commons, Mankato

Maverick Food Pantry is available to any enrolled MSU student. Food can be picked up once per week.

Hours: Monday and Wednesday: 8am – 5pm,

Tuesday: 5pm – 7pm

Friday: 8am – 2pm

Make an appointment to shop: <https://www.mnsu.edu/university-life/campus-services/maverick-food-pantry/C>

Contact: [507-389-1557](tel:507-389-1557)

Meals on Wheels/Senior Dining – Lutheran Social Service

Serves seniors ages 60+ in Region 9 including Blue Earth & Nicollet County

Delivers hot meals and offers community dining sites.

Regular diet and low salt meals available

Contact: 507-625-8970.

Website: <https://www.lssmn.org/services/older-adults/lss-meals>

Minnesota Food Assistance Program (MFAP) - MFAP

MFAP provides food assistance for non-citizens ages 50+ who do not qualify for the SNAP Program or the food portion of MFIP.

To request an application:

Contact: (507) 304-4335

Office located at: 410 S 5th Street in Mankato

Apply online: <https://dcyf.mn.gov/programs-directory/minnesota-food-assistance-program-mfap>

Nicollet County: Call 507-934-8559

Website: <https://bit.ly/2WxtsjM>

Minnesota Food Helpline

Minnesota Food Helpline assesses and provides solutions to food needs.

Monday-Friday: 8:30am-4:30pm

Contact: 1-888-711-1151

Website: <http://www.hungersolutions.org/programs/mn-food-helpline/>

Mom's Meals NourishCare

Choose your own meal plan and have fresh-made meals delivered to your home. Purchase meals to care for yourself or a loved one, to manage chronic disease, or simply for convenience. Private pay, community based services for Medicaid waiver and government funded meal programs accepted.

Contact: 1-877-508-6667

Website: <https://www.momsmeals.com/>

Montgomery Food Shelf-The Salvation Army

Serves residents of Le Sueur County

151 Elm Avenue Southeast, Montgomery

Tuesday and Thursday: 4-6pm

Contact: [507-291-2905](tel:507-291-2905)

New Ulm Area Emergency Food Shelf

Serves residents in School District 88

1305 S Valley Street, New Ulm

Monday and Wednesday: 12-2:45pm

1st Monday of month: 6:30-7:45pm

Email Address: newulmfoodshelf@gmail.com

Contact: (507) 354-7668

Website: <https://newulmfoodshelf.com/>

Produce Distribution Sponsored by Second Harvest Heartland

Receive free 10-20 pounds of produce per household. All ages welcome.

Belgrade Ave United Methodist Church, 325 Sherman Street, North Mankato

2nd Monday of each month: 11am-1pm

Website: <https://www.2harvest.org/find-food>

Produce Place at Mankato Clinic

Mankato Clinic patients can fill a bag with fresh produce from refrigerators located at:

- Mankato Clinic Main Street Lobby, 1230 East Main Street, Mankato
- Mankato Clinic Children's Health Center Lobby, 1421 Premier Drive, Mankato

Fresh produce, based on local availability, is delivered to the refrigerators weekly. The produce is for patients who are struggling to meet food and nutritional needs. To sign up for Produce Place, visit

<https://www.mankatoclinic.com/produce-place/>. You may also talk with your provider at Mankato Clinic.

Salvation Army's Noon Meal Program and Bread Distribution

Free Noon Meal and free bread/bakery items

The Salvation Army Kitchen, 700 S. Riverfront Dr, Mankato

Sunday-Saturday: Noon-1pm

Contact: 507-345-7840,

Website: <https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/northern/Mankato/programs-and-services>

St. Peter Area Food Shelf

201B South 3rd Street, St. Peter, MN 56082

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 1-3pm

Thursday: 6-8pm

Bring bag to carry food.

Contact: Phone: 507-934-9641

Website: <https://stpeterfoodshelf.weebly.com/>

SNAP (Minnesota Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

Formerly Food Stamps. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a county-run, state-supervised Federal program that helps Minnesotans with low incomes get the food they need for sound nutrition and well-balanced meals. The program issues electronic food support benefits that can help stretch your household food budget.

Eligibility depends on household income. Your SNAP benefit will vary based on your income and expenses.

Your county will determine your benefit amount. Your SNAP benefit is issued monthly on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card that is used like a credit card to purchase food at participating stores.

Apply by contacting local county human services agency:

Blue Earth County: (507) 304-4335

Nicollet County: (507) 934-8559

SNAP information line: 1-800-657-3698

For help with applying contact:

Second Harvest Heartland

Blue Earth, Brown, Le Sueur, Nicollet and Watonwan counties

Website: <https://www.2harvest.org/>

Tina England, SNAP Outreach Specialist. Greater Mankato Area, MN

Call or text for assistance over the phone: (507) 514-3535

Toll free at 1-844-764-5513 - no appointment necessary.

Website: <https://dcyf.mn.gov/snap>

Summer Meal Program

Mankato Area Public Schools participates in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) summer food service program. Meals are provided to children (18 years old and younger) at no charge

Monday through Friday: Mankato Area Public Schools has designated sites and times.

Mankato Area Public Schools

Contact: 507-388-7442

Website: <https://www.feedingourcommunitiespartners.org/summer-pack-program.html>

Swipe Out Hunger by Sodexo

Minnesota State University - Mankato students may request free meal swipes that can be redeemed at the University Dining Center on campus. Students may self-nominate themselves using the online electric form,

Apply: <https://mnsu.sodexomyway.com/en-us/explore/swipe-out-hunger>

Contact: 507-389-2613

Waseca Area Food Shelf

Serves residents of Waseca County

203 3rd Avenue Northwest, Waseca

Monday-Friday: 9-4pm

Set up appointment: [507-833-4119 Ext 302](tel:507-833-4119)

[Visit Waseca Area Food Shelf Website](#)

Wednesday Night Community Supper

Supper includes a main entrée (PB&J sandwiches always available as an alternative), salad bar, desserts. All are welcome.

Address: Christ the King Church, 222 Pfau Street, Mankato

Wednesday nights, September- May: 5-6pm

Contact: (507) 345-5056

Website: <http://www.ctkmankato.org/wednesdaynights>

WIC (Women, Infant & Children) Program

WIC is available to Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or recently had a baby (one year after your baby is born if breastfeeding or for six months if not breastfeeding), Infants from birth to one year of age, and Children from one year of age to their fifth birthday

Blue Earth County:

Contact: (507) 304-4163

Address: 410 S 5th St, Mankato

Nicollet County:

Contact: (507)-934-8262

Address: 501 South Minnesota Avenue, St, Peter (lower level)

Website: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/index.html>