

Food Pantries and Community Suppers – 2019 Update

Acton Food Pantry, 235 Summer Rd., Bldg. 1, Lower Level, Boxborough, 978-635-9295,
<http://www.actonfoodpantry.org> , PO Box 2098, Acton, info@actoncommunitysupper.org
Open to: Acton, Boxboro, Concord, Carlisle, Littleton, Maynard, Stow and Westford residents.

Services: The Acton Food Pantry has been providing food and clothing to residents-in-need in Acton, MA and surrounding towns since 1984. Clients receive 4-days' worth of food which they choose from our shelves. This allotment includes canned goods, staples, meat, eggs, dairy products, fresh fruit and vegetables, bread and dessert. The Pantry also provides baby food, formula, and **diapers when available** to those with babies in their household, as well as other basic household products to all families.

Qualifiers: Registration is required on the first visit, and on a yearly basis, with two forms of ID required at that time (online application on website); one ID must have a photo and address, the other ID must corroborate that address, and re-registration happens on a yearly basis.

Hours: The Acton Food Pantry is open on Wednesday from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM and Thursday morning from 9:30-11:30 AM. The Pantry is closed the 4th week of each month. Closed if Acton-Boxborough Public Schools are closed or delayed.

Mt. Calvary Community Supper, 472 Mass. Ave., Acton www.facebook.com/communitysupperofActonMA
978-263-5156, www.mtcalvaryacton.org
Open to: Residents of all towns.

Services: Dinner served by rotating community groups and churches. If Acton-Boxborough schools are closed on Wednesday, the dinner will be canceled (you can verify this by calling 978-264-4700).

Hours: Held every Wednesday, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Bedford Community Table and Food Pantry, 12 Mudge Way, #1, (Town Center Bldg). 781-275-7355,
(contact form on website or email bedfordfoodpantry@gmail.com)
<https://www.bedfordma.gov/town-center/pages/town-center-tenants>
Open to Bedford and surrounding towns residents

Services: The Bedford Food Pantry provides free groceries to any local resident who can establish need. Eligibility is determined by the Massachusetts income limits for fuel assistance. We encourage you to come once before applying for pantry participation. Pantry clients receive one or two bags of nonperishable food, depending on household size. Each week clients may request a few additional items, and there is a "free" table from which you may take a few items. Perishable items such as milk, eggs, hot dogs, bread, produce, etc. are occasionally available. Our Community Dinners are held during the school year, on the lower floor of Town Center in the large room across from the food pantry. All are welcome. There is no charge for the dinners, and no expectation of a donation. **Does not usually have diapers available.**

Qualifiers: To apply, please print and complete the application found on the website and mail it in or bring it to the Food Pantry during operating hours. We never share the information on your application. When your application is approved, you will receive a card with your client number on it. Please bring this card when you come to the pantry.

Hours: **Pantry** hours are Thursdays, 4:30-6:00. The **community supper** takes place from 5:00-6:15 p.m. on Thursdays during the school year. Closed on holidays and Bedford Public Schools snow days. When you come to the pantry, please follow these guidelines:

- Come only between 4:30 and 6:00, not earlier or later.
- Please do **not** park in the area by the dumpster, near the door marked "Deliveries". Parking is available behind and in front of Town Center.
- Bring your pantry card.
- Enter through the front door and wait in the downstairs hall until a volunteer tells you it is your turn.
- Please take everything in your bag(s) home. Don't sort through the items in the hallway. If there are things you can't use, please just return them at your next visit.
- Please be courteous and remember that everyone associated with the pantry is a volunteer.

Concord's Open Table, First Parish Church, 20 Lexington Road, 978-369-2275, www.opentable.org, info@opentable.org, P.O. Box 42, Concord, MA 01742

Open to residents of all towns

Services: At the community supper guests are served a healthy and nutritious meal, including dessert and coffee.

Qualifiers: You do not need to bring anything with you when you come to Open Table. There are no restrictions to access our services.

Hours: Open on Thursdays from 4:45-6:30 for dinner. Open table is closed on Christmas day. Open Table is closed if Concord Public Schools are closed for a snow day.

Food for Families through Gaining Ground Farm, www.gainingground.org, 978-610-6086, P.O. Box 374, Concord, MA 01742, office@gainingground.org

Summer-only program open to Concord residents

Qualifiers and Contact: Eligible families can receive free weekly bags of organic vegetables from July to October. Contact Bonny Wilbur at the Concord Community Services office: 978-318-3034 or bwilbur@concordma.gov

Loaves and Fishes, 978-772-4627, www.loavesfishespantry.org, office@loavesfishespantry.org, 234 Barnum Road, Devens

Open to: Harvard, Littleton, Ayer, Devens, Dunstable, Groton and Shirley residents.

Services: Food pantry and clothing pantry available, as well as special programs as noted below. Shoppers may visit 2 times per month. If you bring 4 reusable bags with you, you can receive an extra item from the "special" table. New clients meet with a client advocate for intake and additional visit on their first visit. **Diapers when available.**

Qualifiers: You must bring a Proof of Residency (POR) each time you visit the Pantry. Once a year you must provide a POR for each member of your household. A POR is an official piece of mail such as a utility bill, rental payment receipt, etc. which lists your name, street address and a recent date. For minors, a POR is either a school or medical paper. Families wishing to participate in the School Backpack, Christmas Shop for your Children (LFshop4yourkids@gmail.com) or Campership programs must have been registered and used the pantry 4 times in the prior year.

Hours: Wednesdays and Fridays 9:45-12:30, 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month, 9-11:00 a.m., and the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 6-8:00 p.m. Doors open 15 minutes prior to the start time. There is then a lottery for shopping order.

Lincoln Food Pantry, St. Vincent de Paul <http://stjulia.org/st-vincent-de-paul-society/> 781-899-2611

Located at St. Joseph's Church, 142 Lincoln Road

Open to: All Towns

Services: The food pantry is open once a month for bags of nonperishable food, toiletries, paper goods and cleaning supplies. Call the above number to find out when the next pantry date will be.

Littleton Neighborhood Supper at Congregational Church, 330 King Street, 978-486-3245, www.ccol.org

Open to residents of all towns.

Dinner is served on Tuesdays from 5:30-6:45 p.m.

Maynard's Open Table, 978-369-2275, www.opentable.org, info@opentable.org, P.O. Box 42, Concord, MA 01742. Pantry location: 33 Main Street, Maynard. For transportation assistance: transport@opentable.org

Open to: Acton, Bedford, Billerica, Boxboro, Burlington, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Concord, Framingham, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Lowell, Marlboro, Maynard, Natick, Stow, Sudbury, Waltham, Wayland, Westford, and Weston residents, and individuals who work in Concord and Maynard.

Services: At the community supper guests are served a healthy and nutritious meal, including dessert and coffee. Pantry items include bags of non-perishable groceries, fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products and other staples including **diapers when available.**

Qualifiers: You do not need to bring anything with you when you come to Open Table. There are no restrictions to access our services. However, if you'd like to receive groceries for family members who are not able to come with you, you will need to fill out a Household Verification Form and bring supporting documentation. Please park in the municipal lot opposite the Fine Arts Theater on Summer Street.

Hours: The **Pantry** is open by appointment on Mondays for ages 55 and older from 12:45-3:00; and on Tuesdays 3:00-6:30 and Thursdays 3:00-6:30 p.m. Open table is closed on Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Christmas day. Open Table is closed if Maynard Public Schools are closed for a snow day. A **community dinner** is served from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Mondays

Maynard Food Pantry, 82 Main St., Maynard (former Union Congregational Church, 978-764-5279, www.maynardfoodpantry.com.

Open to Acton, Maynard, Stow, and Sudbury residents.

Services: Families from Maynard may visit 2 times per month; Clients from other towns can shop 1 time per month. The Maynard Food Pantry also provides Thanksgiving and Holiday dinner baskets for our shoppers. The program can also supply families with school-age children nutritious lunches and snacks for the weekend by sending food home in backpacks.

Hours: The food pantry is open on Mondays from 10:00-Noon. On some Monday holidays, the pantry will open on Tuesdays (schedule on website). If Maynard schools are closed due to snow on Monday, the pantry will close, and an attempt will be made to open the following day if possible. Visitors should park on River Street.

Stow Food Pantry, 509 Great Road (Pompo Community Center), www.stowfoodpantry.com 978-897-4230, stowfoodp@gmail.com.

Open to Acton, Bolton, Boxboro, Lancaster, Maynard and Stow residents.

Services: Food to feed a family for one week. Each month there are “specials” available such as personal hygiene items, sugar, cooking oil, or laundry detergent (schedule on website). Baby food, items and **diapers available**.

Qualifiers: No referrals or financials required.

Hours: Open the 1st & 3rd Fridays per month from 8:40-10:30 am, and the 3rd Thursday from 6:00-7:30 pm (schedule on website). Appointments preferred (stowfoodp@gmail.com or 978-897-4230, but walk-ins are welcome).

Sudbury Food Pantry, 160 Concord Road, Our Lady of Fatima Church lower level,
<http://sudburyfoodpantry.org>, info@sudburyfoodpantry.org, 978-443-7725 or 978-314-5247.

Open to all towns.

Services: Non-resident families may visit once per month. Sudbury residents may visit twice per month. We offer not just staples but also bread, eggs, dairy, frozen meat, paper products, soap products, baby foods and **diapers**. In the summer we often have fresh organic vegetables. Each time you use the pantry the products may change a little but generally clients leave with 4 or 5 large shopping bags of food. This is an open shelve pantry and we try to accommodate special needs such as vegetarians and gluten sensitive clients.

Hours: Food is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30-2:15. The pantry is closed if Sudbury Public Schools are closed.

Qualifiers: Clients must fill out a registration form during their first visit which requires a government-issued photo ID and proof of address (such as a utility bill).

Westford Community Food Pantry, 20 Pleasant Street, 1st Floor, P.O. Box 2223, (Cameron Senior Center), 978-692-5523. Contacts: Alison Christopher, LICSW, achristopher@westfordma.gov or k.hyle@verizon.net, www.westfordfoodpantry.org/-home.html

Open to residents of Westford and surrounding towns.

Services: The Westford Food Pantry provides services for individuals and families in the local community and surrounding towns with emergency, short and long-term needs for quality fresh and dry foods along with personal care and household items. **Diapers** available when in stock (you can call first to confirm). Families may visit the pantry monthly. There is also a thrift shop on site. Our strong partnership with St. Vincent dePaul, St. Catherine's Conference, can provide assistance to those in need of services and support outside of the Food Pantry. Volunteers of St. Vincent dePaul are available during numerous scheduled hours to assist in answering questions and to set up private and confidential appointments with team representatives. (Karen at 978-692-6353 x34 or stcatherinessvdp@yahoogroup.com)

Hours: The pantry monthly schedule is on the website:

2 Mondays per month: 1:30-3:30

2 Wednesdays per month: 8:30-11:30

2 Thursdays per month 9:30-11:30

Every Friday 8:30-11:00

Every Saturday 9:00-11:00 (except holiday weekends)

Every Wednesday 6:00-8:00 p.m. 10