Wilton Woman's Club Pick Up and Delivery Instructions for the Wilton Food Pantry

Pick up groceries at the Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County and deliver to Wilton Food Pantry

The WWC is the only organization that transports essential frozen meat products, dairy and fresh produce weekly from the Lower Fairfield County Food Bank in Stamford to the Wilton Food Pantry at the Comstock Community Center. Volunteers are needed to pick up fresh and frozen food items every Monday morning. The time commitment is approximately 2 hours.

To choose a time please visit the WWC website (<u>wiltonwomansclub.com</u>). Near the top, click on <u>Events</u> and then <u>Upcoming Events</u> in the dropdown menu. <u>Stock Food Pantry</u> is an event. Click on the RSVP button and you will be transferred to the <u>Signup Genius</u> to select your volunteer time. Food Pantry runs can be done by yourself or with a partner.

We shop at the Food Bank on Mondays beginning at **8:30 am** (Note: Tuesdays and Wednesdays are an option, but Mondays are much preferred by the Wilton Food Pantry because they are open to shoppers on Mondays.) All food must be delivered to the Food Pantry by **11:30 am**. Please note the Food Bank often is not ready for us with food unloaded from their suppliers until 9 am. If you do not see any frozen meat, ask the foreman to bring it out.

We are tasked with selecting and packing 2 boxes of fresh produce and 2 boxes of frozen meats only.

What to Expect at the Food Bank:

- When you arrive, you need to check in with the office and tell them you are with the Wilton Women's Club picking up for the Wilton Food Pantry.
- They will give you a small slip of paper you will hand to the Foreman when checking out.
- Then select a cart and gather empty boxes to fill. They will help you if needed.
- Once you have filled your 4 boxes, the food needs to be weighed. Bring your cart to the foreman who will weigh your food and give you the receipt to bring back to the Wilton Food Pantry.

Best Practices:

- Do not bring back produce or dairy products past their expiration date (except frozen meat).
 - No expiration dates older than 1 month for the meats. Do not select and packages of frozen meat that have freezer burn or the packaging is "puffy" expanded looking.
- Do not bring back large size pieces of meat (e.g., whole turkeys) or gallon size containers of milk. The Wilton food pantry has limited space and want to serve as many people as possible.
- Do not pick up bread, pasta or canned items.

- Bring washable gloves for selecting frozen food (and possibly mushy produce, so your hands don't freeze!).
- Wear a jacket if chilly.
- Look for personal hygiene items in baskets near the offices. They are not always available.

The Lower Fairfield County Food Bank is located at <u>461 Glenbrook Road, Stamford</u>, about a 25minute drive from the Wilton town center.

The Wilton Food Pantry is located at Comstock Community Center, <u>180 School Road, Wilton</u>. Entrance is on the side of the building. We are currently dropping off the groceries inside the building by 11:30 am. If you have time to help unload, that would be appreciated, but if you do not have time the Social Services staff will take care of it.

Contact info:

Wilton Woman's Club Coordinator: Patti Dormer: 203-249-8963 Wilton Food Pantry Contact: Lauren Hughes: 203-613-2903