

Indian Ladder Farms

Altamont, Albany County NY

Owner: Peter Ten Eyck



Background: Indian Ladder Farms is a 100 year old fourth generation family run farm in Albany County, NY that predominately grows and sells apples.

Crops Donated: The farm donates thousands of pounds of apples, typically once a year. The amount of apples donated can vary dramatically from year to year depending on the harvest. While the farm also grows berries, they are too perishable for the farm to easily donate.

Collection of Donation Crops: The Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York picks up wooden crates filled with apples that farm employees have set aside for donation. The apples are dropped off at local pantries in the capital region and the wooden crates are returned to the farm by the Food Bank. Local gleaning organizations, including church groups, visit the farm to pick apples for donation to food pantries. Capital Roots, an organization which works to provide greater access to fresh affordable food in New York's Capital Region, gleans apples for distribution to pantries, convenience stores and its Veggie Mobile®.



Why donate? Rather than see what is grown go to spoil, Indian Ladder Farms would like to see this food go to use, especially if it can go to a hungry mouth. It costs very little to add a little more production. Since they know they can donate in years when they have excess apples, they do not shy away from producing a little extra. The farm does not receive tax credits or value added processing funds for their donations.



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Photos courtesy of Indian Ladder Farms