

Canstruction for Northern New York

The **LEAD Council** of the Northern New York Community Foundation invites students at local schools to create a “Canstruction” project to help with food insecurity in their community and across the North Country.

This group activity encourages students to use their creativity and construct a project made of collected canned food, other non-perishable food items, and hygiene products that will support an area food pantry or backpack program of their choice. It’s a fun, competitive effort with an opportunity to win a prize and help your community.

Project Guidelines

As you design and build your Canstruction project, please follow these project guidelines:

- Each sculpture must be made entirely out of unopened, commercially available cans of food. Hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.) are also eligible for use.
- The cans used must be standard sized (approximately 10 to 15 ounces) and cannot be dented, damaged, or expired.
- The sculptures can be no larger than 10 feet high by 10 feet wide by 10 feet long.
- The design and construction of the sculpture must be structurally sound and stable.
- The sculpture must be able to be deconstructed and all of the cans used must be donated to the area food pantry or backpack program noted on your registration form.
- Each team is responsible for selecting an appropriate presentation site for their Canstruction project/structure. Teams are also responsible for the collection and transportation of all donated items to their food pantry/backpack program recipient.
- Each team is also responsible for raising funds to cover the cost of the cans and any other materials needed to construct their sculpture.
- All sculptures must adhere to local fire and safety codes.
- The sculptures must be designed and built within a specified time frame. **Canstruction for Northern New York submissions are due by Friday, April 21.**
- An official form for your completed project will be provided ahead of the submission deadline.
- Overall, the project goal is to raise awareness about hunger and food insecurity, while also providing a fun and creative way for teams to give back to their communities.

Awards

Three opportunities to win \$500 to be directed toward the local nonprofit organization of your choice!

- Top Collection Award (most items collected)
- Best Design Award
- People’s Choice Award (voting to be conducted online)

Timeline

- March 16-27 – Open registration for local schools to sign up
- March 28 – Construction begins!
- April 21 – Official project submissions due to LEAD/NNYCF
- May 1 – LEAD/NNYCF announces official winners!

Project Calendar

To support the organization of your Construction project as a class/group, below is a sample outline to coordinate your effort. Please allocate enough time and preparation to design and build your structure:

<u>Calendar</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Week 1 (March 28-31)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Decide on design concept w/ team- Determine # of cans/donated items- Identify location to feature project- Begin collection
Weeks 2-3 (April 3-14) <i>*April 10-14: Spring break week</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Finalize design plans- Continue collection/purchase materials- Organize method to transport collected donations to selected pantry/backpack program
Week 4 (April 17-21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete Construction project; submit to LEAD/NNYCF- Prominently feature your finished project on campus or in the community!- Transport donated items to the recipient organization

