

# JUST ONE THING

**Submitted by:** Emily Rogers, [erogers@coopfoodstore.com](mailto:erogers@coopfoodstore.com)

**Company/Organization:** Hanover Co-op Food Stores

**Type of Organization:** For profit business

**Number of Employees:** 350

**Category:** Community

**Challenge or Opportunity:** Each year our organization looks for opportunities to fight food insecurity in our community. One of the ways that we have done this is by providing drop boxes for local community food shelves in the entryways to our food stores. But we wanted to make a larger impact.

**Approach or Solution:** We looked for opportunities to hold an event to collect food donations from participants and provide the participants a service in return for their donation. We scheduled our first paper-shredding event in 2017, and instead of charging a monetary fee, we chose to charge a social fee: a food donation to one of our local food shelves.

**Impact:** Our first event was a great success; we collected and donated 960 pounds of food to our local food shelf. We now hold shred event food drives each spring and fall, through which our community has donated 2,704 pounds of food to local food shelves. These shred events also make an environmental impact, with over 18,000 lbs. of paper recycled.