

MEKHIRAT HAMETZ: SELLING OF HAMETZ

The Torah prohibits the ownership of hametz (leavened foods) during Pesah. Many of these prohibited foods can be disposed of prior to Pesah. Some cannot without significant loss. Therefore, we arrange for the sale of hametz to a non-Jew. The transfer, *mekhirat hametz*, is accomplished by appointing an agent, usually the Rabbi, to handle the sale. It is a valid and legal transfer of ownership. At the end of the holiday, the agent arranges for the reversion of ownership to the now-permitted hametz. If the ownership of the hametz was not transferred before the holiday, the use of this hametz is prohibited after the holiday as well (*hametz she-avar alav ba-Pesah*).

BSO will accept responsibility for instituting the transaction and for the re-purchase of the after Pesah hametz. There is no fee for this service, but a contribution to B'nai Shalom of Olney's General Fund for the purpose of *Ma'ot Hittim* is appropriate. In past generations, at this time of year, each Jewish community maintained a special fund to provide flour for baking matzah for the needy. This fund, known as *Ma'ot Hittim*, soon became an all-inclusive charity for distributing food and clothing at Pesah time. We are specially obliged to provide for the needs of our Jewish poor all over the world at this time of year.

Please make your donation online at <https://www.bnaishalomofolney.org/form/mekhirat-hametz-selling-of-hametz.html>, or fill out the form below and return it to:

B'nai Shalom of Olney
18401 Burtfield Drive
Olney, MD 20832

Before Monday, April 15, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. (If at all possible, please return this form by Friday, April 12th at 2:00 p.m.)

I/We, _____, hereby authorize Rabbi Dina Rosenberg or her designated representative to sell all hametz located on our premises.

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Business Address: _____

I/We understand that this is a legal transaction and that I/we may not partake of these products during the week of Pesah. I/We understand that these products will be re-purchased for our use immediately after Pesah.

Signature: _____ Date: _____