FEEDING PEOPLE, NOT LANDFILLS

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SUSTAINABLE BAINBRIDGE CLIMATE FORUM

DOMENIC CALABRO, U.S. EPA (REGION 10)

www.epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge
Wasted Food Impacts Our Society

- 31% of food grown and processed in the U.S. each year goes uneaten
- 1 in 9 U.S. households was food insecure in 2018 (USDA)
- Reducing our edible food losses by just 15% could feed 25 million hungry Americans each year (USDA)
- Food insecurity/lack of access to healthy foods can increase the likelihood of chronic health issues
Wasted Food Impacts Our Environment

• 75% of wasted food ends up in a landfill, decomposing and producing methane for decades (13% of U.S. GHG emissions annually on a lifecycle basis)

• Getting food from farm to fork accounts for 50% of annual land use, 80% of fresh water use, and 10% of energy consumption in the U.S. (USDA)

• Food production also impacts water quality and soil productivity
Public & Private Sector Partnerships

30-40% of all available food in the U.S. is wasted.
Do your part. Join your federal partners in reducing food waste.

United States Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. FL&W Policy Action Plan

• Investing in Prevention and Keeping Waste Out of Landfills
• Facilitating Surplus Food Donation
• Showing Increased U.S. Leadership at Home and Abroad
• Educating and Activating Consumers
• Standardize National Date Labeling
EPA Food Recovery Initiatives

Food Recovery Hierarchy

- Source Reduction & Reuse
  Reduce the volume of surplus food generated

- Feed Hungry People
  Donate extra foods to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters

- Feed Animals
  Divert food scraps to animal feed

- Industrial uses
  Provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy

- Composting
  Create a nutrient-rich soil amendment

- Landfill / Incineration
  Last resort to disposal

Most Preferred

- Most Preferred

Commercial
Food Recovery Challenge

Residential
Food: Too Good to Waste

K-12 Schools
School Food Share
Food Recovery Challenge (Pacific Northwest)
Food Recovery Resources

Sustainable Management of Food

Understanding the Issues

What Businesses, Institutions, and Other Organizations Can Do

What Individuals Can Do

FURTHER WITH FOOD

Center for Food Loss and Waste Solutions

US EPA EXCESS FOOD OPPORTUNITIES MAP

- Find information about more than 60,000 potential generators and 4,000 recipients of excess food.
- Utilize tools—such as a ‘Near Me’ feature, basemap gallery, and bookmarks function—to make navigation simple and intuitive.
- Download details about individual establishments—such as addresses and annual estimates of excess food generation—by using the map’s attribute table.

Access the map at: https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/excess-food-opportunities-map

Why and How to Measure Food Loss and Waste

A PRACTICAL GUIDE

SAVE THE FOOD.COM
Thank You!

Please visit our website:
https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food

Join the Food Recovery Challenge
https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-challenge-frc

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