

Massachusetts Food Waste Disposal Ban



NEWMOA Materials Management 101

John Fischer, MassDEP

October 15, 2024

Massachusetts Waste Bans

- Done via regulation under existing statutory authority
- First bans in 1990
- Many materials banned from disposal in Massachusetts
 - Paper, cardboard, bottles and cans
 - Leaves and yard waste
 - Certain construction materials
 - White goods, tires, lead acid batteries, CRTs
 - Mattresses, textiles
- Need to balance supply & demand of markets

Massachusetts Waste Bans

- Conduct inspections at solid waste facilities
- Enforce against businesses or institutions
- First violation
 - Notice of non-compliance
- Repeat violations (within 5 years)
 - Administrative consent order with penalty
 - Penalties - \$860-1,000/violation
- Also send formal request for information letters to verify compliance status

Food Waste Reduction Goal

- Food waste = 21% of our trash - about 930K tons/year
- 2030 goal – increase diversion to 780K tons/year
 - 500K tons over 2018 baseline of 280K tons
- Overall Solid Waste Master Plan goal
 - Reduce disposal by 30 percent by 2030
 - From 5.7 to 4.0 million tons

Food Waste Ban

- 2014 Ban
 - About 2,000 businesses dispose of > 1 ton/week
- 2022 Ban
 - About 2,000 more businesses dispose of > ½ ton/week
- Compliance standard
 - Dispose less than the threshold
 - Can comply through any combination of waste prevention, donation, animal feed, composting, AD, etc.

Supporting Programs & Policies

- RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts
 - Business assistance
 - More than 750 food waste assistance deliveries
 - Compost site technical assistance & workshops
- Recycling Business Development Grants and Recycling Loan Fund – for food waste alone:
 - 17 loans for \$4.6 million
 - 17 grants for \$1.7 million

Waste Ban Expectations

- 2014 ban - increase from 100k to 300k tons/year
- 2022 ban - includes about 100K addl. tons/year
- Actual increase
 - From 100K tons in 2012 to 380K tons in 2022
- Inspections
 - Inspected more than 45,000 loads of trash since 2014
- Enforcement
 - Issued 129 notices of non-compliance
 - Issued 14 consent orders with penalties

Food Waste Diversion Data

Type of Use	2016	2,017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Anaerobic Digestion	48,234	87,856	159,563	187,947	211,215	175,264	217,180	239,370
Compost	79,586	52,991	42,321	40,569	33,038	25,273	31,931	26,499
Animal Feed	26,250	26,777	39,593	40,014	8,828	24,719	43,033	43,820
Food Donation	22,712	25,940	26,637	27,703	30,004	23,592	22,085	24,773
Other	13,277	12,819	8,065	9,552	38,745	40,380	43,615	43,609
Rounded Total	190,000	210,000	280,000	310,000	320,000	290,000	360,000	380,000

Businesses Diverting Food Waste



Capacity

- Current management capacity – about 500K tons
- 2016 Economic Impacts Study
 - Created 900 jobs & \$50 million of capital investment
 - \$77 million value added to state economy
 - \$5 million state and local tax revenues
- Increasingly part of regional capacity picture
- Future need for more distributed capacity and expanded collection infrastructure

Important Factors for Success

- Built foundation of voluntary programs over more than a decade
- Favorable program economics at right scale
- Extensive stakeholder engagement before, during & after
- “Soft launch” – initial emphasis of outreach and compliance assistance
- Enforcement complemented by technical assistance
- Supported with market development funding

For More Information

- Solid Waste Master Plan

<https://www.mass.gov/guides/solid-waste-master-plan>

- MassDEP Food Waste Page

<https://www.mass.gov/guides/commercial-food-material-disposal-ban>

- Organics Subcommittee

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-organics-subcommittee>

- Organics Action Plan

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-organics-action-plan-january-2022/download>

- RecyclingWorks in Massachusetts

www.recyclingworksma.com

- John Fischer – john.fischer@mass.gov



CET: Tackling Wasted Food in New York State

Josh Enderle
Waste Reduction Consultant





CET

Resilient climate solutions

Our mission is to innovate, implement, and scale the environmental solutions that communities need to thrive.



CET Partners



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Wasted Food Solutions

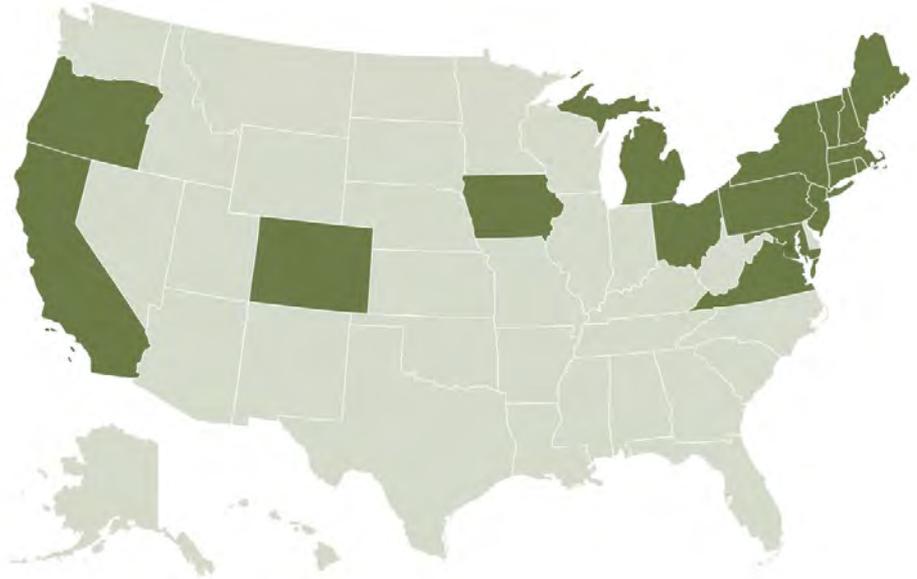


Impact since 2013:

21,000,000 donated meals recovered

150,000 tons of food waste diverted

70,000 tons of CO₂ emissions avoided





Wasted Food in New York



Amount of food wasted
each year in New York:
7.8 billion pounds*

As heavy as **17,333** Statues of Liberty**

Food insecurity is experienced by
2.2 million people in New York.

Nearly **6.5 billion** meals'
worth of food is wasted in
the U.S. each year.



[Source: NY DEC](#)



NYS Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling Law

Effective January 1, 2022:

Businesses and institutions that generate an average of two or more tons/week
must:

Donate excess edible food; and

Recycle all remaining food scraps

*If they are within 25 miles of an organics recycler

[DEC Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling law](#)

Rethink Food Waste NY

CET is under contract with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to provide food waste assistance to businesses and institutions



866-306-0911



RethinkFoodWasteNY@cetonline.org



centerforecotechnology.org/nywasteassistance



Waste Reduction Assessment

In-person or virtual visit to evaluate existing waste streams and learn about waste reduction goals



Recommendations

Customized report of opportunities to prevent, recover, and divert wasted food



Follow up

Support through the implementation of new strategies, direct connections to service providers



Education

Signage, staff trainings, and more

No-Cost Technical Assistance



MA | CT | RI | ME | NH
NY | NJ | PA | MD | OH



Solutions & Assistance





Source Reduction Guidance

Cost savings

Waste tracking

Meal planning

Food purchasing and
Procurement

Storage



Food Donation Guidance

Why should my business donate?

What foods can be donated?

Building a donation program

Finding partner food rescue organizations

Food transportation

Food Donation



Is there leftover food that can be donated today?

DONATE

Whole fruits & vegetables

Fresh dairy, grains

Prepared foods

Food stored below 41°F
or above 135°F



Call _____ at
_____ today
with questions or to schedule pickup!
Store food in fridge located

Label and keep temperature log
every ____ minutes.

NO

Oyster/Clam Shells

Moldy, rotten, spoiled food

Items past expiration date

Food not held at proper temperatures

If you can't donate it - compost it!
Compost bins are located





Food Scraps Source Separation Guidance

Collect for composting, animal feed, or anaerobic digestion

Container placement and color coding

Clear signage

Easily accessible and available bins

Good housekeeping practices





Customizable Signage & Training Tools

Food Scraps



ALL FOOD SCRAPS & SOILED PAPER

- Fruit & vegetable peels
- Dairy, eggs, grains, bread
- Meat, fish, poultry
- Bones, shells
- Soiled cardboard
- Napkins, paper towels



NO

- Compostableware
- Coffee cups, wrappers
- Plastic, metal, glass



Contenedores y Botellas



CONTENEDORES Y BOTELLAS

Contenedores y botellas* de bebidas limpia y vacías

*deja las tapas y las etiquetas puestas



NO

- Líquidos, materiales manchados por alimentos
- Bolsas de plástico, utensilios, sorbetos



¡No embolsar productos reciclables!



Food Donation



Is there leftover food that can be donated today?

DONATE

- Whole fruits & vegetables
- Fresh dairy, grains
- Prepared foods
- Food stored below 41°F or above 135°F



Call _____ at _____ today with questions or to schedule pickup! Store food in fridge located _____

Label and keep temperature log every _____ minutes.

NO

- Moldy, rotten, spoiled food
- Items past expiration date
- Food not held at proper temperatures

If you can't donate it - compost it! Compost bins are located _____





Compost Site Technical Assistance

Assist commercial-scale sites with composting food scraps

Site layout and design

Operational best management practices

Pest and odor management

[See Website for further info](#)

Compost Site Operator Workshops

Opportunity for composters to tour a compost site and learn about best practices for composting food scraps

Thank you!



866.306.0911



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www.centerforecotechnology.org/nywasteassistance/





FEEDING®

NEW YORK STATE

Food Recovery Program



October 2024

Today's Agenda

- About Feeding NYS
- How did we get here?
- Food Recovery Program
- How can Feeding NYS help?
- Food Recovery Outreach



OUR MISSION: To lead a unified effort for a hunger-free New York State

FNYS Impact Pillars are Advocacy, Food Sourcing & Food Recovery. We work to supplement the food inventories of our members along with providing state & federal funds to support their work.

Additionally, our statewide Advocacy Committee, a representative voice of people facing hunger and our member organizations within the NYS food banking network, focus on policy work that aims to co-develop national priorities that support our neighbors facing hunger.

Our small team of ten employees strategically invests time into these three impact pillars so that our members have additional resources to support the communities they serve.



Feeding NYS Member Food Banks



FOOD BANK

Typically serves multiple counties, maintains a warehouse for food commodities and has a fleet of vehicles for distribution of food. There are 10 FNYS members organizations in New York



FOOD PANTRY or FOOD RESCUE PROGRAM

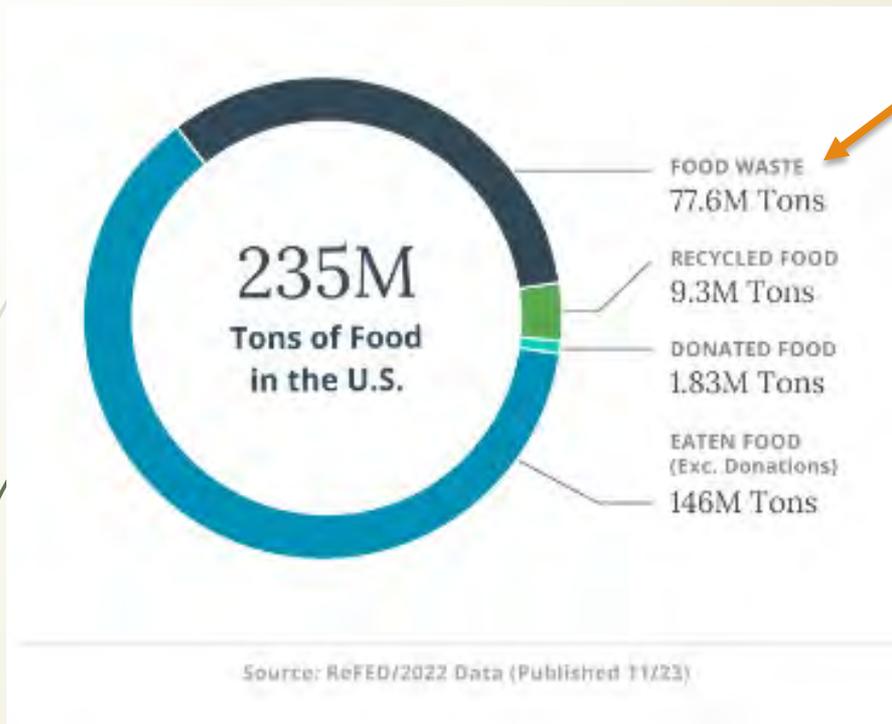
Distributes food to community members through a pantry, soup kitchen or shelter environment.

There are 4,981 food programs in NYS that are partner agencies of food banks,

In addition, there are food rescue organizations & programs across the state that operate outside of the food bank programs.



How Did We Get Here?



In the U.S., **38% of all food goes unsold or uneaten** – and most of that goes to waste.

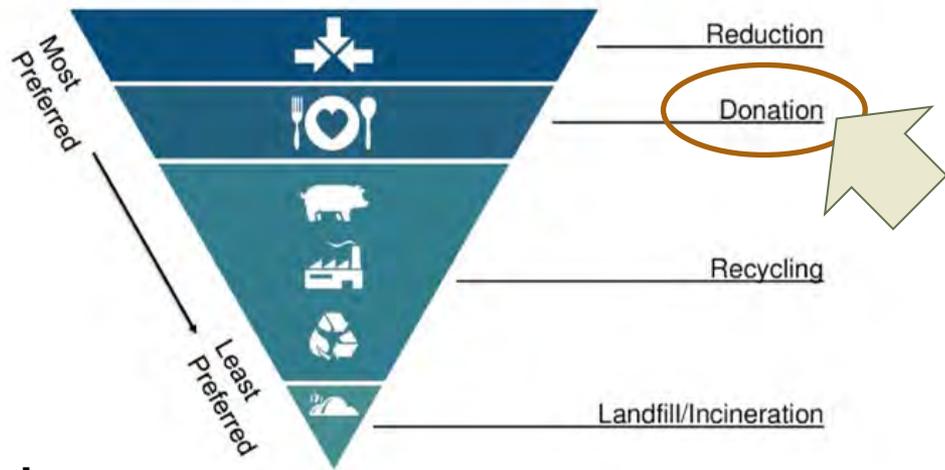
We call this **surplus food**, and while a very small portion of it is donated to those in need and more is recycled, the vast majority becomes food waste, which goes straight to landfill.

That's almost **145 billion meals' worth of food** that we're letting go unsold or uneaten each year

18 billions pounds of produce produced by NYS farms and **1.2 billion pounds** never leave the farms

7.8 billion pounds of food wasted per year in NYS

Wasted Food Hierarchy



New York's Retail and Processor Potential:

1203 large food generators eligible under NY Food Donation law (*NYS DEC*) to donate edible foods & recycle food waste

Food Recovery Program

- **New York State Food Donations and Food Scraps Recycling Law**
 - Passed 2019
 - Effective Jan 2022
 - Eligible organizations must donate excess edible food
 - Recycle all remaining food scraps if they are located within 25 miles of an organic's recycler
- **Goals:**
 - Source 37M pounds by end of June '25
 - Divert additional pounds away from landfills



Food Recovery Outreach

- Generator Letter from NYS DEC
- Flyers/Postcards
- Social Media
 - NYS Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling Law Videos
 - Agency Training Videos
- Food Bank Sourcing Team Outreach
- DEC Guidance Document for Businesses



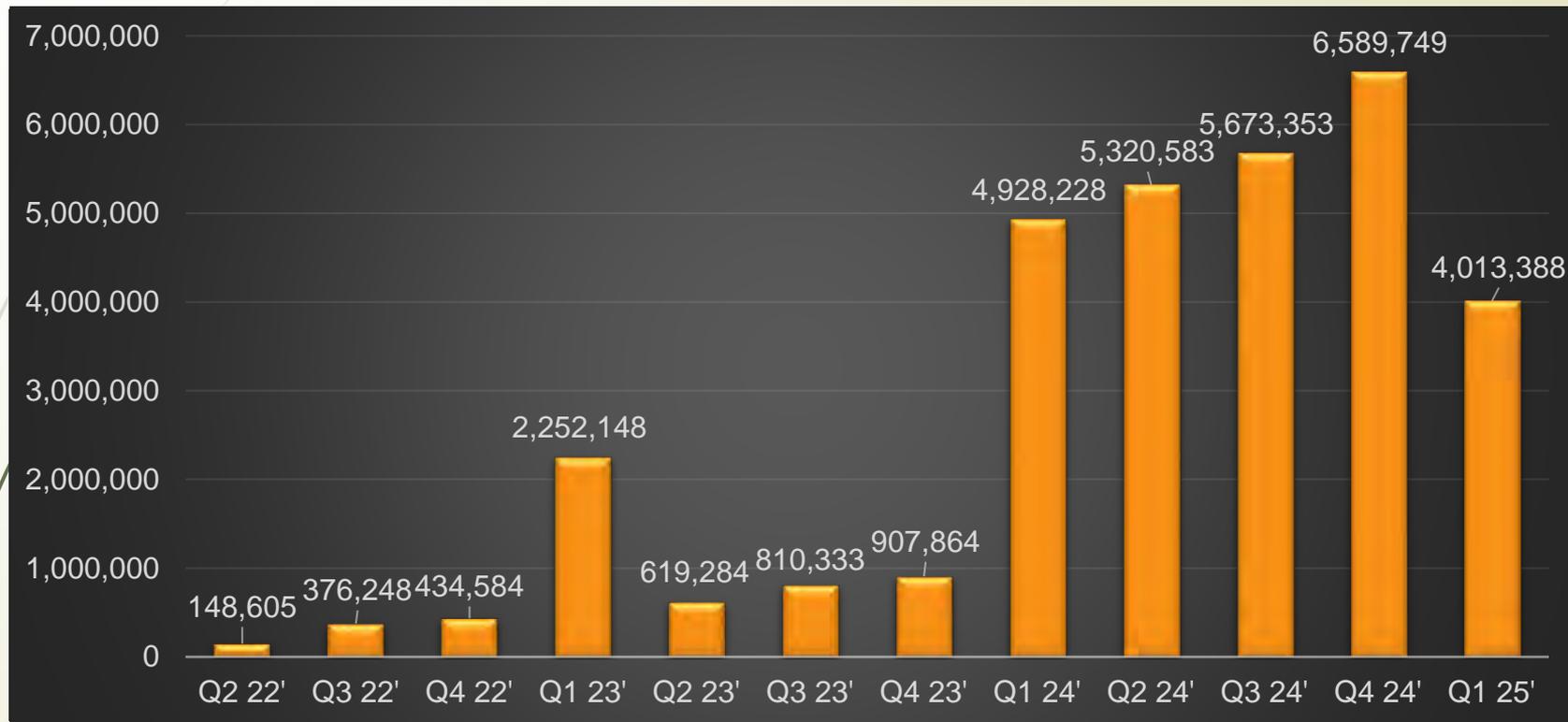
How Can Feeding New York State Help?

Set up a Donation Program or Improve Your Current Program

- Facilitate Initial Visit with Food Bank
- Develop Donation Collection schedule
- In person visits and training sessions to help educate your teams
- Reporting
- Direct point of contact for any questions that may arise.



FNYS Pounds Recovered by Quarter



Results

32 Million Pounds

Donated through Aug '24



- Improved partnerships between Generators and Sourcers at food banks
- Food Safety Training at no cost for every agency doing donation pick ups at generators
- Food Bank provides all equipment to transport food safely
- Easier Reporting for generators and agencies

Contact Us

- Call Center
 - (518) 930-7000
- Email
 - jhawkins@feedingnys.org
- Website
 - <https://feedingnys.org>
- Social Media
 - LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/79818796/admin/>
 - Instagram - <https://Instagram.com/feedingnys?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y>

NEWMOA: How to divert Organics

Increasing Organics Diversion



The Dirt: Who Is Black Earth Compost?

- Largest dedicated organics fleet in New England (40 trucks), diverting over 350 tons/week
- Combination of hauling and processing = synergies, cost savings, marketing and quality control on feedstock



- Designed/built/operating 4 compost sites: 2 municipal and one farm based
- Compost material from 40,000 residents and 800 commercial customers across 125 towns in Massachusetts and Rhode Island

Black Earth Curbside Collection

Private Pay Programs

- Residents sign up directly with Black Earth and we handle all of the customer service
- Pricing structure is density driven
More participation = lower cost
- **Participation levels off around 20% with private pay**

How Municipalities Can Grow Participation

- Buying starter kits of bins & bags
- Subsidize residential subscriptions
- Help market and drive outreach
- Rebates on municipal bills for residents



Build Your Own Program

Level 1: Preferred Vendor

Towns need to market, educate, do outreach for the program

Level 2: Pilot Programs

Fully subsidizing a program to build density. When program goes private pay, costs are lower for everyone

Level 3: Citywide Collection

~ 5 years to get to 50% participation

This takes a decade, start making moves today



Other Options: Centralized Drop Offs/Transfer Station

- 48 or 64 gallon bins placed at a centralized location
- Towns with higher transfer station participation benefit from drop off bins
- Easy to implement and introduce composting to residents



Commercial Pickups

- Waste Ban is spreading awareness
- Marketing benefits
- Potential trash hauling savings, but usually an added cost
- Acceptance of certified compostables



Schools: Starting at the Root

- Educate and instill habits around composting for the next generation
- Can help drive participation in residential program
- Fundraiser and referral program can subsidize cost of school collection



Own The Infrastructure

- Black Earth covers upfront capital costs and can pass down benefits to town
- Reduces reliance on long distance waste transportation
- Cost effective way to initiate town wide food scrap collection



Our largest facility in Manchester, MA

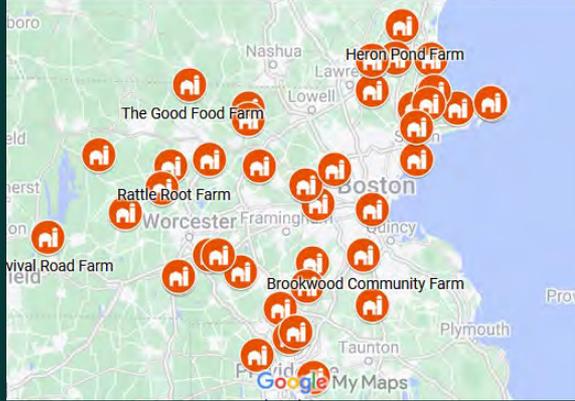


Smaller facility in Groton, MA

Facility Management

- Management of leaf and yard waste site: **adding food waste speeds up the process and increases the value while reducing trucking**
- Bulk compost drop off at discounted rates with backhaul of leaf/yard waste
- Brush grinding

Farmworks Partners



Farms, Garden Centers, Community Gardens

- Farmworks: Return discounted compost to local farms to grow food
- Install raised bed community gardens for towns and organizations
- Support local food production and access for lower income
- Return compost to the community at over 100 garden centers
- Healthy soil, healthy food, healthy people



Compost, Grow, Eat... (repeat)

