

Reducing Food Waste

It's good for you and the environment!

Zero Waste Humboldt, in coordination with the City of Arcata, is here to help you prevent and reduce food waste. California laws require that organics, including food waste and plant trimmings, are kept out of landfills. This includes recovering edible food for organizations that feed people. Keeping food waste from ending up in landfills reduces methane emissions, a potent greenhouse gas, which helps Arcata and the region meet climate change goals. For the highest and best use of this resource, businesses can implement food waste reduction strategies in this priority order:

1. Prevent food waste in the first place.
2. Donate extra edible food to feed hungry people.
3. Give food scraps to farmers for animal feed.
4. Have food scrap waste collected for composting, if services are available.

Preventing Food Waste: Prevent food spoilage and surplus through inventory management, monitoring waste, adjusting purchase orders, and training staff.

Donate Edible Food: The California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act and the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (Federal), make it easier for businesses to donate food to qualified charities such as food rescue and food bank programs. These laws protect donors from liability.

Donors are allowed a State tax credit equal to 10% of the cost that would otherwise be included in inventory costs based on pounds of food donated. *Food donors are advised to consult with their tax adviser for information on tax deductions.* To learn more, see Chapter 503, Statutes of 2011 (Fuentes, AB 152), regarding donations to food banks, voluntary contributions, and income tax credits.

Local Food Banks and Shelters: This list is not exhaustive. For more options, visit ZWH's website: www.zerowastehumboldt.org.

- Non-Perishable & Some Perishable Food:
Food for People, contact Allison Kenney at (707) 445-3166 ext. 312 or akenney@foodforpeople.org.
- Perishable & Prepared Food:
Arcata House: 707-822-4528
Eureka Rescue Mission: 707-445-3787
Salvation Army: 707-442-6475

Donate Food Scraps to Local Farmers: Some farmers collect food prep scraps for animal feed. For more information, visit www.zerowastehumboldt.org.

Current Collection/Drop-off of Food Scraps: As of January 2022, service fees range from \$4-\$12 depending on the frequency of pick-ups. Container sizes vary from 3.5 to 32-gallons.

- **The Local Worm Guy** - (707) 385-9676
- **Full Cycle Compost** - (707) 633-9121
- **North Coast Co-Op** (Drop-off-Limited capacity) - sustainability@northcoast.coop

Typical items accepted: vegetable & fruit scraps, bread, dairy, meat & bones, egg & other shells, tea bags, coffee grounds/filters, food soiled paper products, paper towel, and more.

Items NOT accepted: Grease, plastic, metal, glass, and other items.



The City of Arcata does not endorse products, services, accuracy of information in this list, or completeness of the services listed.

Thank you for making a difference!

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