Food for Thought

Food Waste Solutions

We work with our customers in many ways to put uneaten food to good use. Answer the questions to the right to understand which combination of solutions is best for your food waste.

**SOURCE REDUCTION:** The best solution for food waste is prevention. We help our business customers prevent food waste by providing data and audits detailing the food they are wasting. Similarly, households can prevent food waste by buying only what they will eat, planning out meals, and using up leftovers.

**DONATION:** Food donation is a wonderful way to contribute to your local community and reduce the amount of food going to waste. If your food is safe, edible, and nutritious we can help connect you with food banks and other food recovery organizations who manage donations.

**ANIMAL FEED:** Some types of uneaten food are suitable for use as animal feed. Finding these matches often involves consultation with animal nutrition experts and professional feed processors. Some food may be fed directly to livestock. Other food may be heated and pelletized for shipment to other farms.

**ANAEROBIC DIGESTERS:** Wasted food can be processed in facilities called anaerobic digesters, often located on dairy farms or at waste water treatment plants. We deliver food waste to these facilities, which produce renewable energy and return valuable organic nutrients and carbon to the soil.

**COMPOSTING:** Composting is the controlled process by which micro-organisms aerobically decompose organic materials into a nutrient-rich soil amendment. We have decades of experience operating compost facilities and delivering wasted food to other municipal and farm composters.

**DEPACKAGING:** Certain types of non-saleable food and beverage products are suitable for depackaging, which is a process that separates the organic material from its packaging, so that one or both streams can be recycled.

**LANDFILL GAS TO ENERGY:** Food waste that has not been source separated or that cannot be efficiently collected may be directed to landfills. Here the material decomposes and yields landfill gas, which we can use to make renewable energy. By providing an outlet for unsorted food waste, landfills protect the cleanliness of feedstocks for feed, compost, and digestion.

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**Does my food waste come from over-purchasing or wasteful practices?**

**Is my food still safe, edible, and nutritious?**

**Is my food clean of any non-food contamination?**

**Can it be collected efficiently?**

**Is my food commingled with other waste? Would separate collection be fuel-intensive and costly?**

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**Source Reduction**

**Food for People**

**Food for Animals**

**Anaerobic Digestion**

**Compost**

**On-Site Compost**

**Depackaging**

**Landfill Gas to Energy**

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