



Recommended Solution 2

FOOD SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS

Actively support food system stakeholders to reduce wasted food with targeted food waste reduction education and activities.

This Action Plan is a living document and new information will be added as it is developed relating to different stakeholder groups

- Producers/growers
- Distributors
- Retailers
- Food service
 - Schools
 - Institutions (hospitals, jails, higher education, museums, etc)
- Food rescue organizations
- Consumers
- Food scrap recyclers/composters



SCHOOLS

Develop and disseminate *Food Waste Reduction Toolkit for Illinois Schools*.
Support the recovery and redistribution of food in K-12 schools.

OBJECTIVE A

Provide detailed guidance for K-12 schools to reduce food waste, raise awareness and increase knowledge of the impacts of wasted food.

OBJECTIVE B

Engage members of the next generation, educators and the general public (parents, staff, administration, etc.) in order to change how schools handle wasted food.

OBJECTIVE C

Support the recovery and redistribution of food in K-12 schools - share tables, redistribution of good food within schools, donation to outside organizations.

WASTED FOOD ACTION ALLIANCE WILL...

- I. Promote the adoption and use of the [*Food Waste Reduction Toolkit for Illinois Schools*](#).



- II. Collaborate with statewide partners for the development of state-level guidance and best practices for the recovery and redistribution of edible food for K-12 schools.





SCHOOLS

Develop and disseminate *Food Waste Reduction Toolkit for Illinois Schools*.
Support the recovery and redistribution of food in K-12 schools.

HOW WILL *YOU* SUPPORT SCHOOLS?

TAKE ACTION

- ❑ Share a link to the *Food Waste Reduction Toolkit for Illinois Schools* on website, social media, newsletter, etc.
- ❑ Develop a program to rescue food from schools to support a local food pantry.

ENGAGE OTHERS

- ❑ Send a link to the *Food Waste Reduction Toolkit for Illinois Schools* to a school/district.
- ❑ Find out if any schools in your community have programs to reduce wasted food, rescue or recycle. Promote those efforts through social media.

MAKE MONEY MATTER

- ❑ Provide funding to a school/district for the materials needed to sort lunchroom food for rescue or composting.
- ❑ Sponsor a zero waste presentation or event for students.



Mindful Waste lunchroom sorting station



New Trier Environmental Club teamed up with Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC), NTHS administration and Go Green volunteers to conduct a cafeteria waste audit at the Freshman Campus.



INSTITUTIONS

Support institutions/businesses managing wasted food by connecting them to local resources and supporting the sharing of best practices.

OBJECTIVE A

Identify Illinois institutions/businesses taking action to manage wasted food in their operations and raise awareness in their communities.

WASTED FOOD ACTION ALLIANCE WILL...

- I. Connect to organizations and networks of institutions to share the Illinois Food Waste Action Plan and solicit spotlights of institution successes in Illinois.
- II. Develop a list of Illinois institutions willing to share best management practices for reducing wasted food, rescuing food and recycling food scraps with industry peers.
- III. Identify business incentives and resources for food scrap diversion from landfill.





INSTITUTIONS

Support institutions reducing wasted food by connecting them to local resources and supporting the sharing of best practices.

HOW WILL *YOU* SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS?

TAKE ACTION

- ☐ Launch a food waste reduction program at your institution (prevent, rescue, recycle).
- ☐ Highlight food waste reduction as a priority in your business plan, website, newsletters.
- ☐ Find out where your institution donates food and encourage employees to support that organization as well.
- ☐ If your institution is doing food scrap composting, be recognized through the We Compost recognition program of the Illinois Food Scrap Coalition.

ENGAGE OTHERS

- ☐ Share your success story about reducing wasted food with the Wasted Food Action Alliance to provide best practices for other institutions.
- ☐ Participate in a webinar about institution food waste reduction.
- ☐ Provide tours of your food waste reduction operations to teach others.

MAKE MONEY MATTER

- ☐ Track and report food donated to ensure your institution receives appropriate tax credit for the donation.
- ☐ Adopt a school and cover the cost to set up a food waste reduction program.

OBJECTIVE A

Identify Illinois institutions/businesses successfully working to reduce food waste, raise awareness and increase knowledge of the impact of wasted food.



The U.S. Food Loss and Waste 2030 Champions

The USDA and US EPA recognize private sector corporations such as General Mills, Sodexo, Unilever and Wal-Mart, which have made sizable commitments to reducing food loss and waste within their operations.