



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Wasted Food Reduction and Food Donation

Gary Feinland

Organics Reduction and Recycling, Division of Materials Management

Ulster County Waste Management Workshop

November 10, 2018

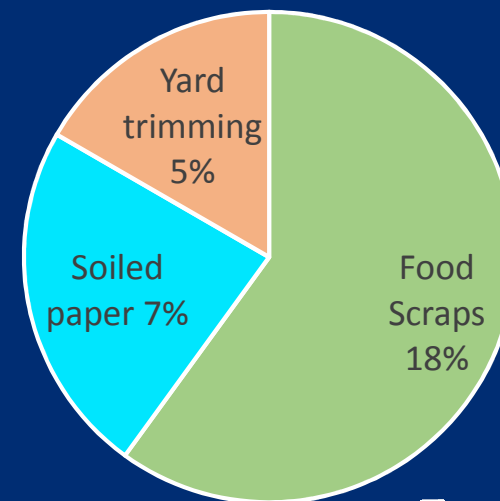
SUNY Ulster at Stone Ridge

Municipally-Generated Organics

Residential
Institutional
Commercial

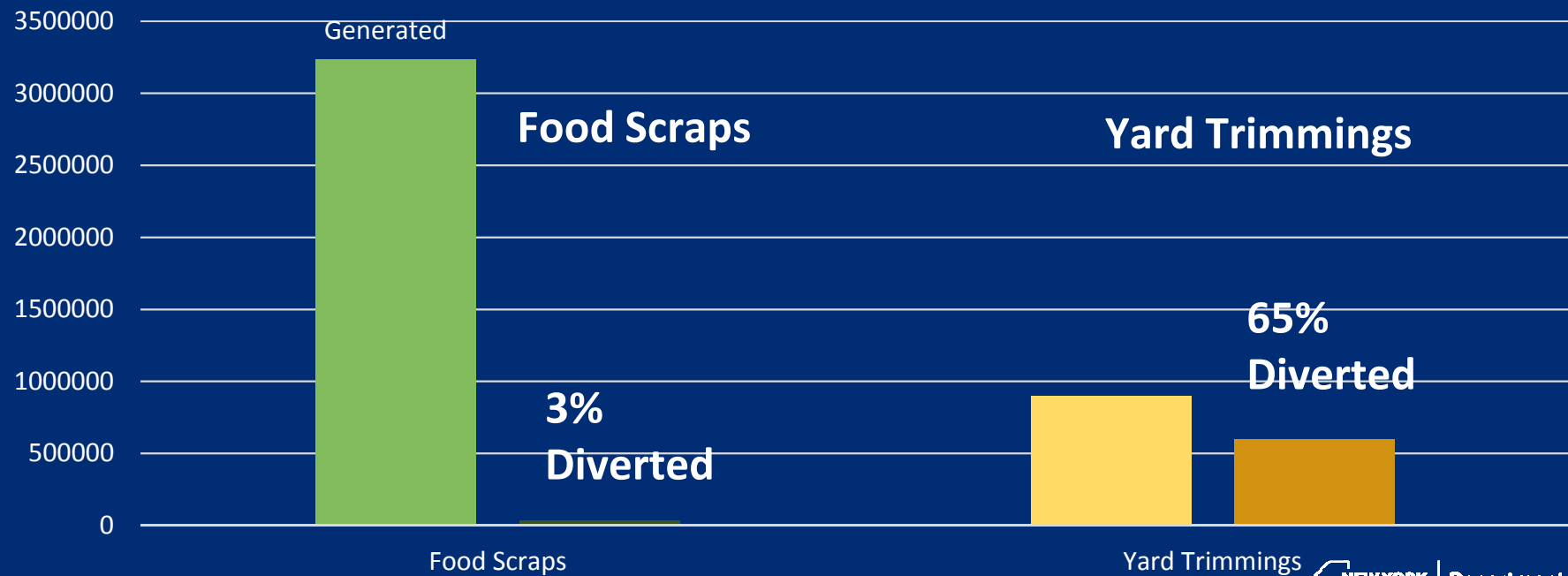
30% of MSW

Percentage of Organics in MSW

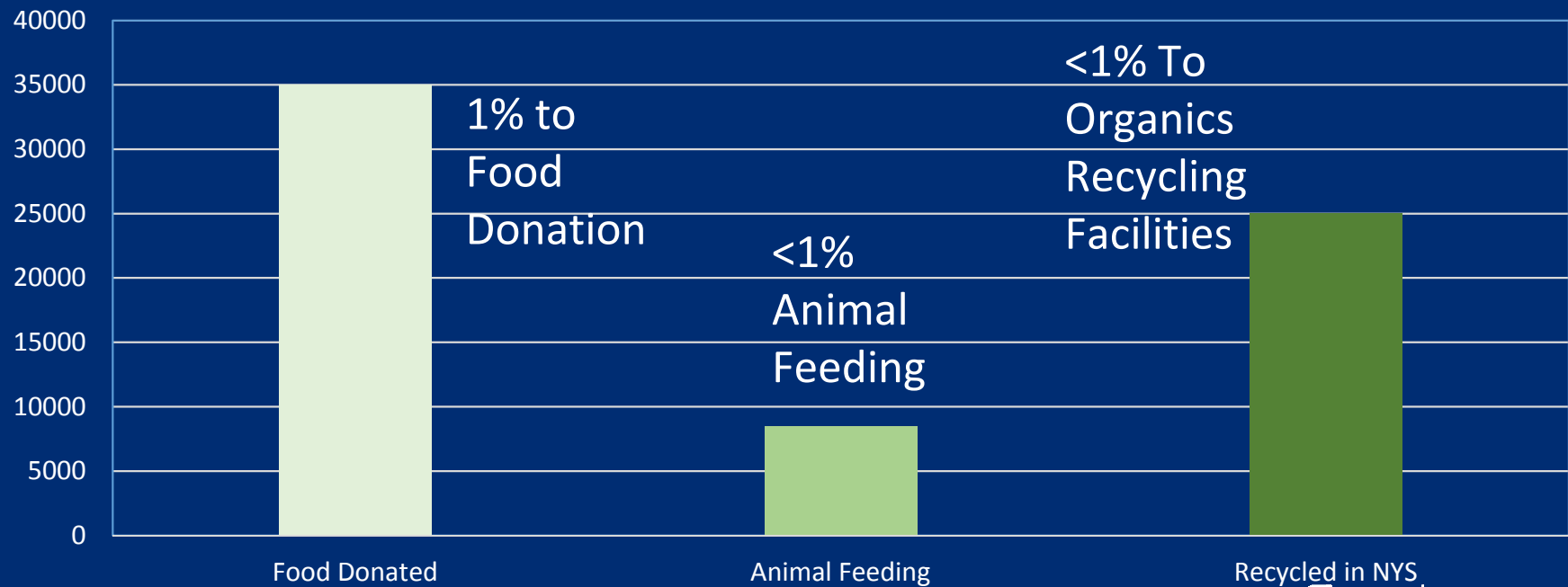


Department of
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Conservation

Organics Generated and Percent Diverted from Disposal



Less than 3% of Excess Food and Food Scraps Diverted from Disposal Within NYS



Composting is part of the solution!



Source: <http://www.hvmag.com/Hudson-Valley-Magazine/Neighborhoods/Ulster-County/>



Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency

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Give Back

RECYCLE YOUR FOOD SCRAPS

Ulster County throws away 40,000,000 lbs of food scraps each year.



Composting is now available at Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency.

Source: <http://www.ucrra.org/>

Wasted Food

40 percent of food in the United States is never eaten¹



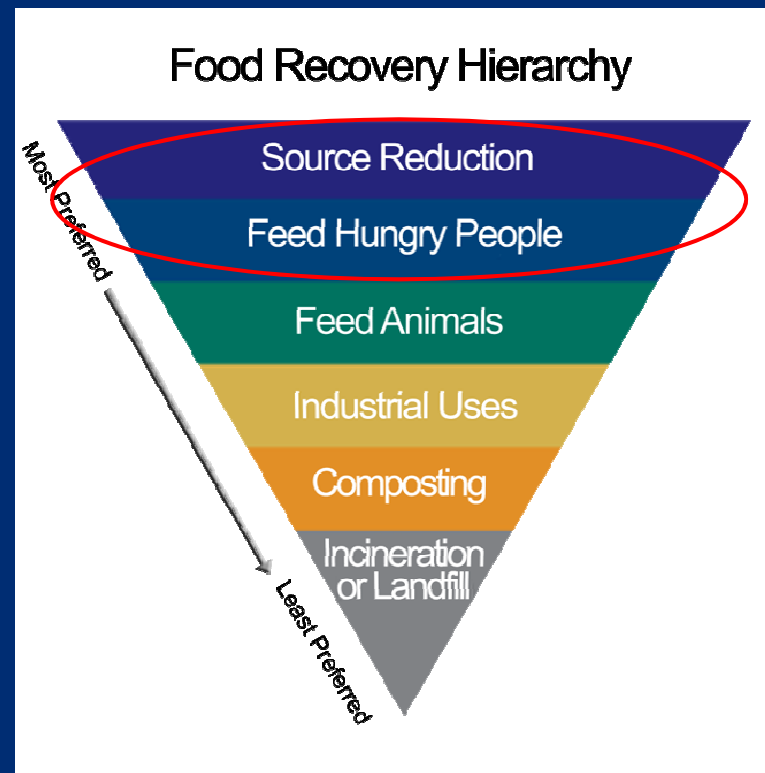
1 in 8 New Yorkers are food insecure (about 2.5 million people)²

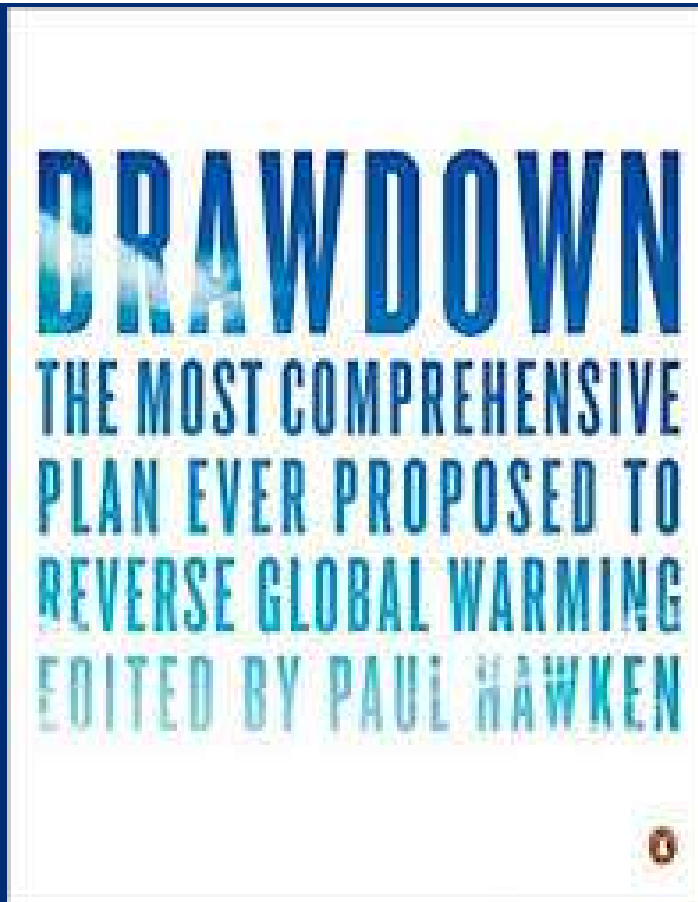


¹Gunders, Dana & Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). "Wasted: How America Is Losing Up to 40 Percent of Its Food from Farm to Fork to Landfill". Second Edition, 2017.

² [Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap, 2017](#)

At the Top





Reduce Food Waste:
3rd most impact out
of 100 activities

Solutions



Solutions





SavetheFood.com

Ad Council and NRDC partnership

WASTING FOOD WASTES EVERYTHING
WATER | LABOR | FUEL | MONEY | LOVE

Food Too Good To Waste (FTGTW)

USEPA tips and tools to reduce wasted food from homes



Food To Good To Waste is a USEPA program

Measurement Bag

“Get Smart”

Measurement raises
household
awareness!



Food To Good To Waste is a USEPA program

Shopping List Template

SMART STRATEGY:
Make a Shopping List with Meals in Mind



- Think about how many meals you'll eat at home this week and how long before your next shopping trip.
- Next to fresh items on the list, note the quantity you need or number of meals you're buying for.
- Shop your kitchen first and note items you already have.

FOOD ITEM	AMOUNT NEEDED	ALREADY HAVE
Salad greens	Lunch for a week	Enough for one lunch
2% milk	Gallon	None
.....
.....
.....
.....



Food To Good To Waste is a USEPA program

“Eat Me First” Prompt



Food To Good To Waste is a USEPA program



NYS Solutions



- NYSAR3 Food Recovery Campaign
- NYS Pollution Prevention Institute
- Legal Fact Sheets for Donation

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the NYSAR website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.nysar3.org/page/food-recovery-121.html>. The website header features the NYSAR logo, the text "New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling", and navigation links for "Join NYSAR³" and "Member Login". A main navigation menu includes "ABOUT", "EVENTS", "MEMBERSHIP", "AWARDS", "RESOURCES", "COMMITTEES", "NEWS", "RE-CLOTHE NY", "FOOD RECOVERY", and "CONTACT". The "FOOD RECOVERY" menu is expanded, showing options like "More Information", "Digital Tools", "Donation Organization Locators", "Join The Campaign", "Facebook Page", "Strategies for Residents", "Strategies for Businesses & Institutions", "Strategies for Donation Organizations", and "Strategies for Agriculturalists".

The main content area features a banner image of fresh vegetables with the text "New York State Food Recovery Campaign". Below the banner, the text reads: "The New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling (NYSAR³) is leading a state-wide food recovery campaign to reduce wasted food, redirect surplus to hungry New Yorkers, and to recycle remaining food scraps."

Food Waste in America

In their 2012 issue paper, *Wasted*, The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) reports that approximately **40 percent of food in the United States is never eaten**. That's an estimated **63 million tons of food per year**, which is grown, processed, and transported only to be wasted in the end, a habit that **costs Americans \$218 billion** annually. In addition to the negative environmental, natural resource, and economic impacts, excessive food waste is all the more inadmissible considering the fact that **one out of every six Americans lack stable access to food**. Redirecting 15 percent of food, that would otherwise be wasted, is enough to provide nourishment for more than 25 million Americans every year.

Strategies for Reduction & Donation

In accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency's food recovery hierarchy, the New York State Food Recovery Campaign is prioritizing the source reduction of wasted food and the feeding of hungry people with surplus food. The campaign also strives to engage across the state in order to better understand the root causes of wasted food

<https://www.nysar3.org/page/food-recovery-121.html>



→ ↻ | Secure | <https://www.facebook.com/NYSFoodRecoveryCampaign/>

f New York State Food Recovery Campaign 🔍

Campaign

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New York State Food Recovery Campaign

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Community

Department of Environmental Conservation

NYSAR³ Pledge Campaign

I pledge to reduce wasted food in my home by . . .

- Eating all leftovers and perishable foods first
- Checking my home before shopping
- Making a plan/grocery list before shopping
- Properly storing, freezing, and canning foods
- Donating extra food from pantry and garden
- Volunteering for a local food pantry or meal center
- Composting all inedible food scraps

<https://www.nysar3.org/page/food-recovery-121.html>



NYS FOOD SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY CLEARINGHOUSE

[Home](#)[Overview](#)[Reduce](#)[Divert](#)[Tools](#)[Assistance](#)

Keeping Food Out of Landfills

The Food Waste Reduction and Diversion Reimbursement Program is an innovative partnership between New York State and Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) focused on incentivizing the reduction of food waste in the state.

[LEARN MORE »](#)<https://www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i/food/>

Is food retail or service a part of your operation? Do you generate food waste?

The first thing to realize is that food waste is actually a valuable resource when handled appropriately. This website is here to help you successfully utilize that resource by preventing and diverting your food waste.

Legal Fact Sheet

New York Food Donation: Liability Protections

Created by the Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic, September 2018

Federal and state laws provide strong liability protections for businesses (including farms) and nonprofits that provide or receive donated food. The federal Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act provides liability protection for food donors and recipients, and New York's Good Samaritan law provides additional liability protection to businesses in the state.

<https://www.nysar3.org/page/more-information-132.html>

The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act

The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (the Emerson Act) provides a federal baseline of protection for food donors.¹ The Emerson Act covers individuals, businesses, non-profit organizations, and the officers of businesses and non-profit organizations. It also covers gleaners—individuals that harvest donated agricultural crops to give to a nonprofit organization that distributes to the needy.² These individuals and businesses are protected so long as they donate qualifying types of food in good faith.

- **Qualifying Food:** The donated food must be “apparently wholesome” or an “apparently fit grocery product” and meet “all quality and labeling standards imposed by Federal, State, and local laws and regulations,” even if it is not “readily marketable due to appearance, age, freshness, grade, size, surplus, or other conditions.”³

NYS Solutions



- Proposed Governor's Program Bill
- Would require large generators to donate, recycle
- May pass in a future year

NYS Solutions



New State funding provides

- \$1.2 million to municipalities **x 2**
- 0.8 million **x 2** for emergency food relief organizations
- \$2.8 million to food banks
- \$4 million to large generators

Municipal Funding – Project Example

2017/18 Funding

- \$205,500
- For three distribution centers to store and transport food to small pantries and meal sites



Cold Storage Capacity Solution



A collaboration between Food Bank of Central New York, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Central NY community.



**Department of
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Conservation**

2018/19 Municipal Funding – Food Reduction, Donation, Recycling

State Grant Up to \$250,000/project

80% - Outreach and Education

80% - Staff

50% - Capital and Construction Costs
(Engineering limited to 15%)

See the Grants Gateway for details and to apply.



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2018/19 Food Pantries, Meal Sites

State Grant Up to \$15,000/project

90% - Outreach, Education, and Staff

90% - Capital and Construction Costs

Must be 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit

See the Grants Gateway for details and to apply.



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2018/19 Funding – Wasted Food and Food Scraps

	<u><i>Municipalities</i></u>	<u><i>Pantries/meal sites</i></u>
<i>Applications are due</i>	<i>March 1, 2019 3:00 PM</i>	<i>February 1, 2019 3:00 PM</i>
<i>Last day to submit questions</i>	<i>February 22</i>	<i>January 25</i>



Funding Contacts for NYSDEC Grants

(2018/19) \$ 1.2 million for municipalities and
\$0.8 million for food pantries and meal sites

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114499.html>

- Questions: organicsgrants@dec.ny.gov
- Grants Gateway:
https://grantsgateway.ny.gov/IntelliGrants_NYSGG/module/nysgg/gportal.aspx?NavItem1=3

Thank You

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