



Food Waste and Edible Surplus Food

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SaveTheFoodLA.com

**Vernon, Pasadena, Long
Beach have their own
health departments*



Food Waste Basics



Food Waste

- Metrics
- Societal Implications
- Environmental Implications





What percentage of food never gets eaten worldwide?

- A. 30%
- B. 50%
- C. 10%
- D. 85%



What percentage of food never gets eaten worldwide?

A. 30%

**FORTY
PERCENT**

**OF FOOD IN
AMERICA
IS WASTED.**



LA County - Commercial Food Waste



- CalRecycle Waste Characterization Study
 - Estimated 1.7 million TONS of food is sent to a landfill per year



Top Sources of Wasted Food in LA County

- Multifamily Units 22.3%
- Restaurants 17.4%
- Retail Food and Beverage 10.5%
- Manufacturing – Food 8.6%

Sources of Wasted Food (National)

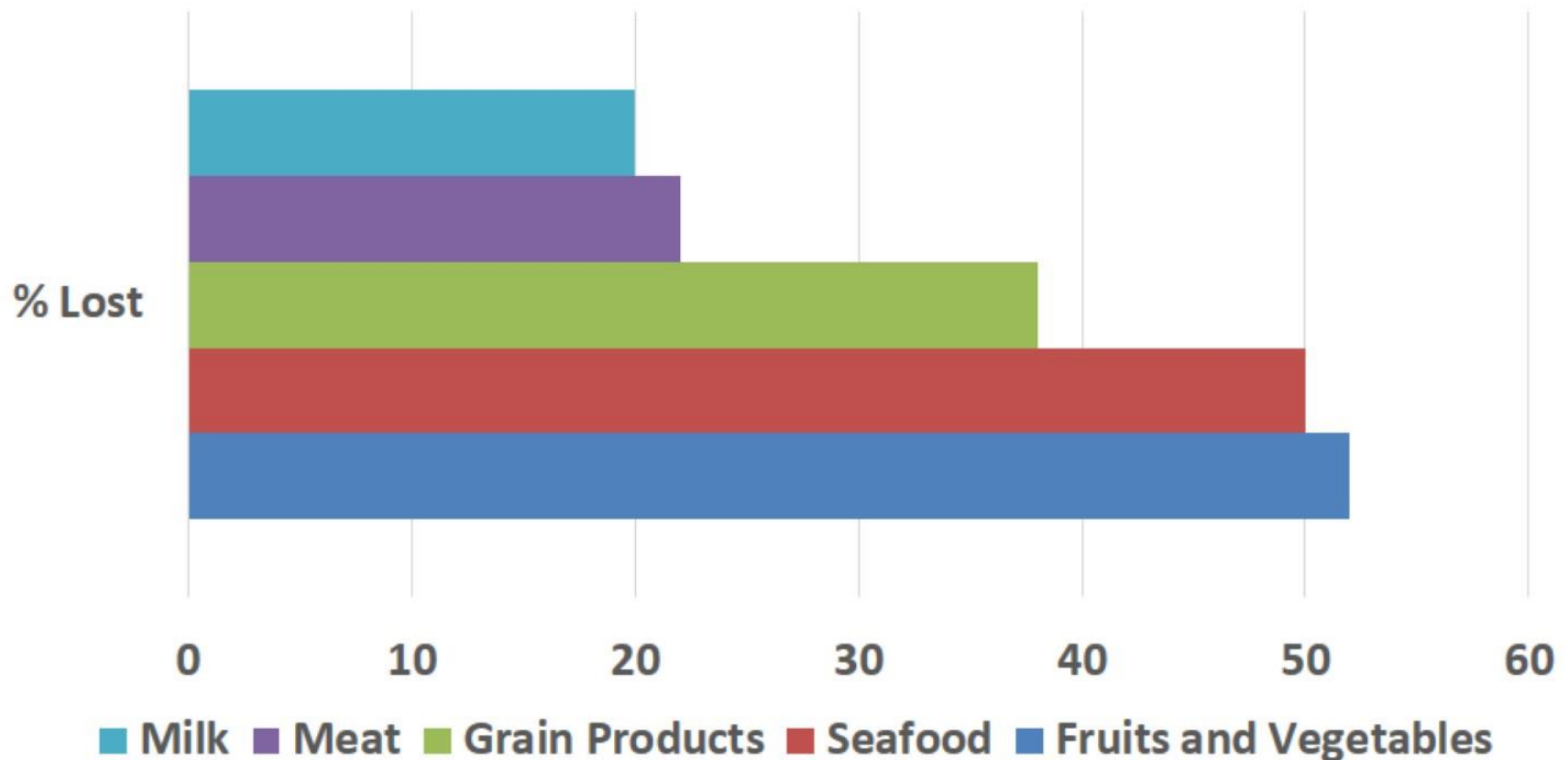


1. Source: ReFED.com



Source: Instagram @ImperfectProduce

Food Losses (US/Canada/Australia/NZ)





Food Security

- **“Access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.”**



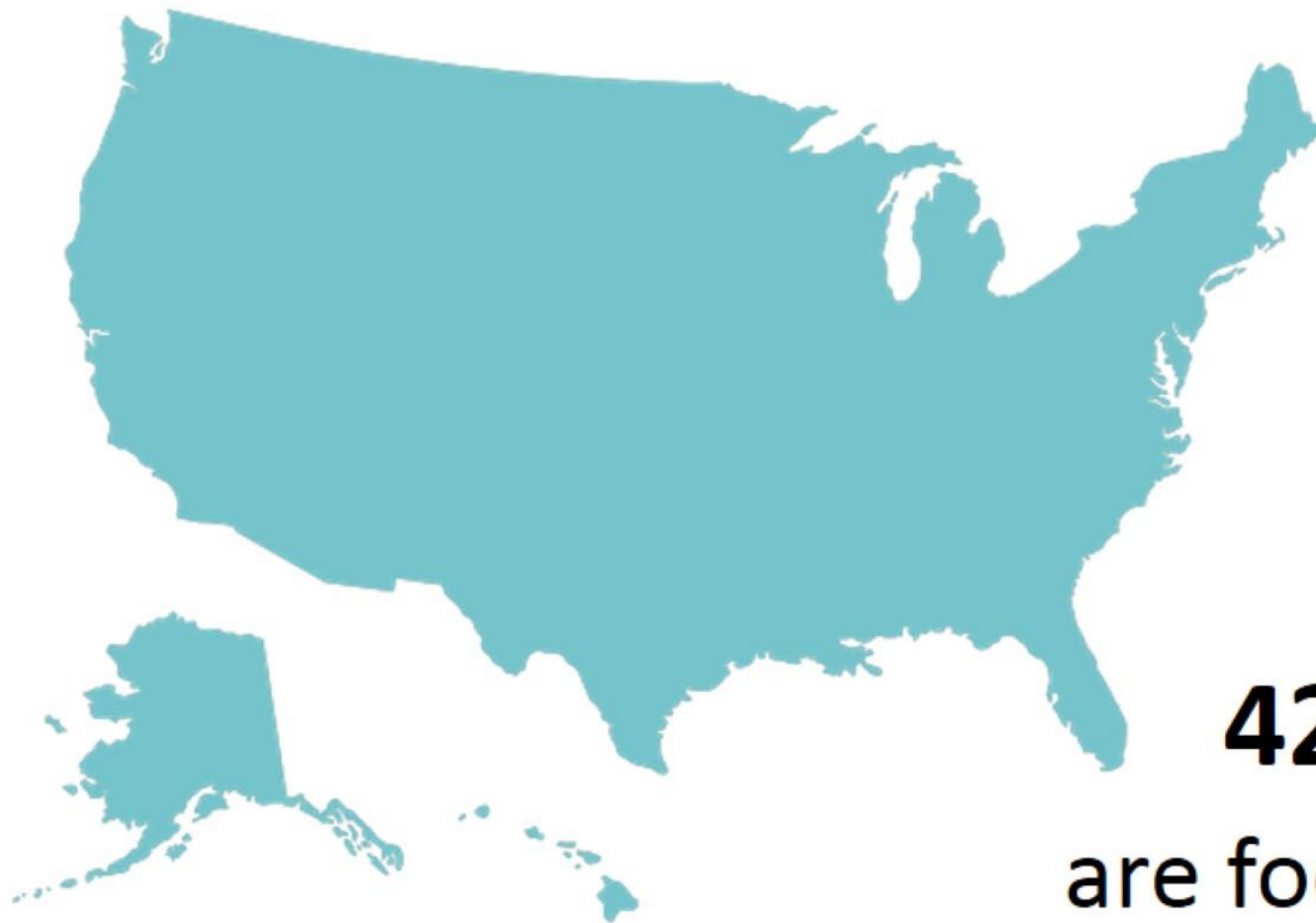
Food Insecurity, Defined

Low Food Security

- “reports of reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet, little or no indication of reduced food intake”

Very Low Food Security

- “reports of multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake”



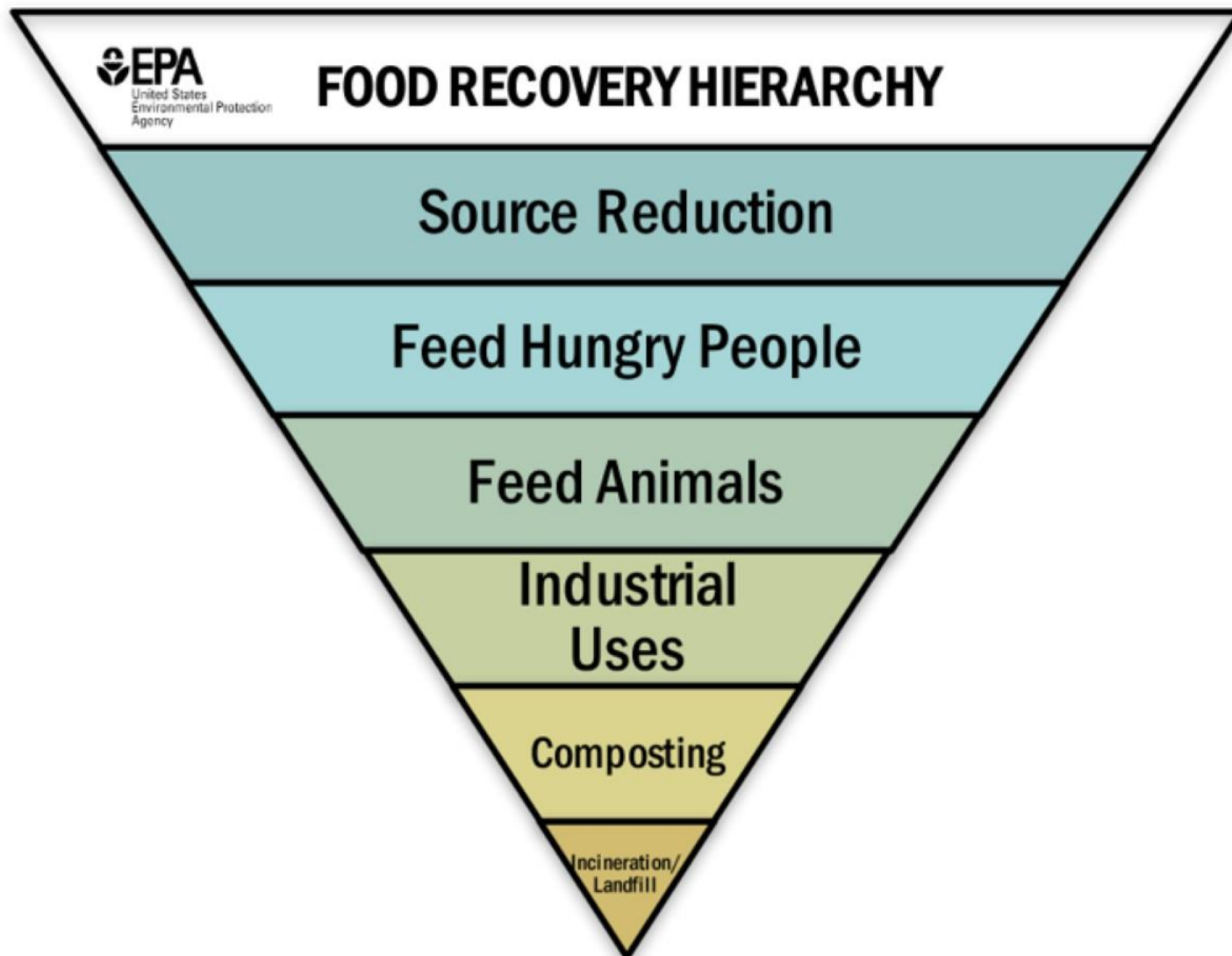
Nationally,
42 MILLION
are food insecure.

In California,
5 million
are food insecure.



In LA County,
1.68 million
are food insecure.

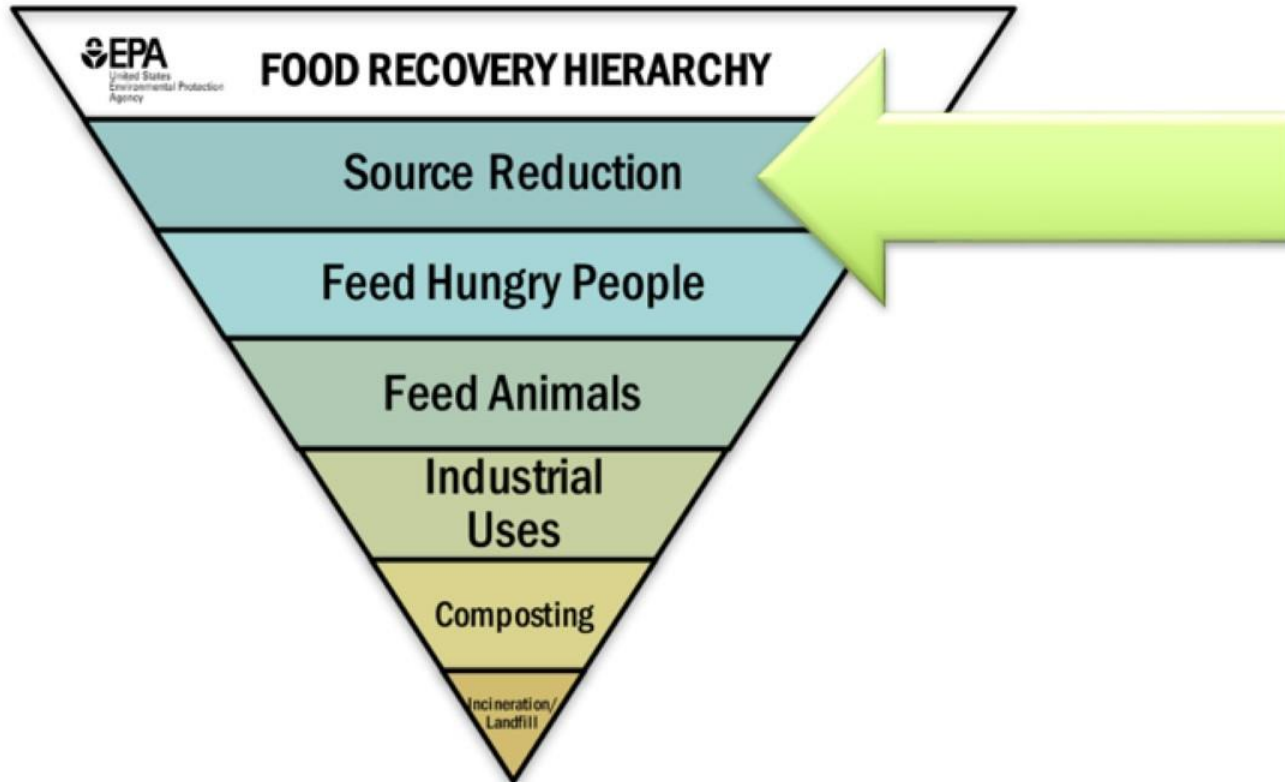






Source Reduction





Source Reduction at the University of Texas - Austin

- Plate waste audit
- Student/consumer education
- Portion control & trayless dining
- **48% REDUCTION** in surplus food!



THE KITCHEN IS THE KEY TO VICTORY
EAT LESS BREAD



FOOD WILL WIN THE WAR
You came here seeking Freedom
You must now help to preserve it
WHEAT is needed for the allies
Waste nothing

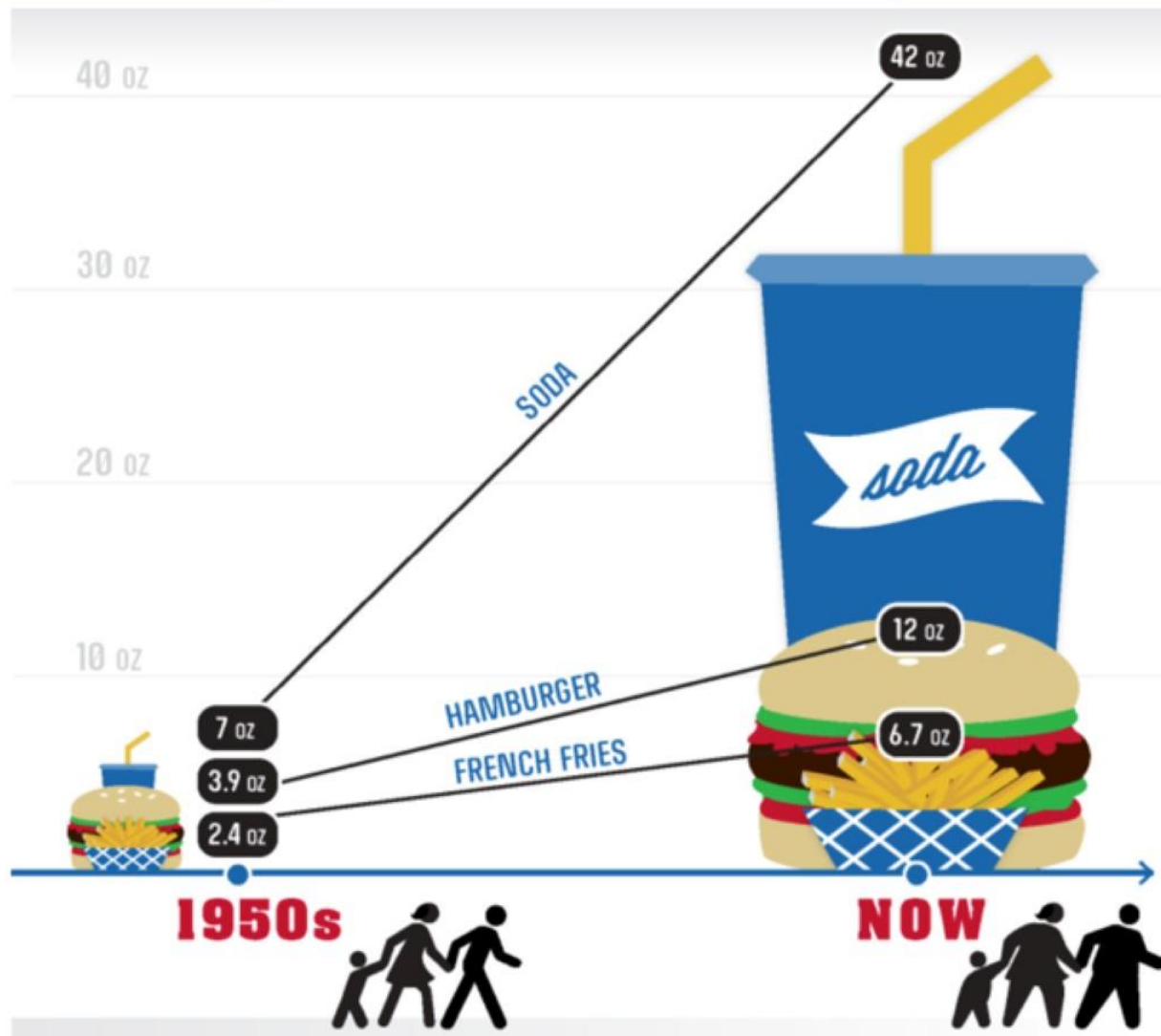
UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

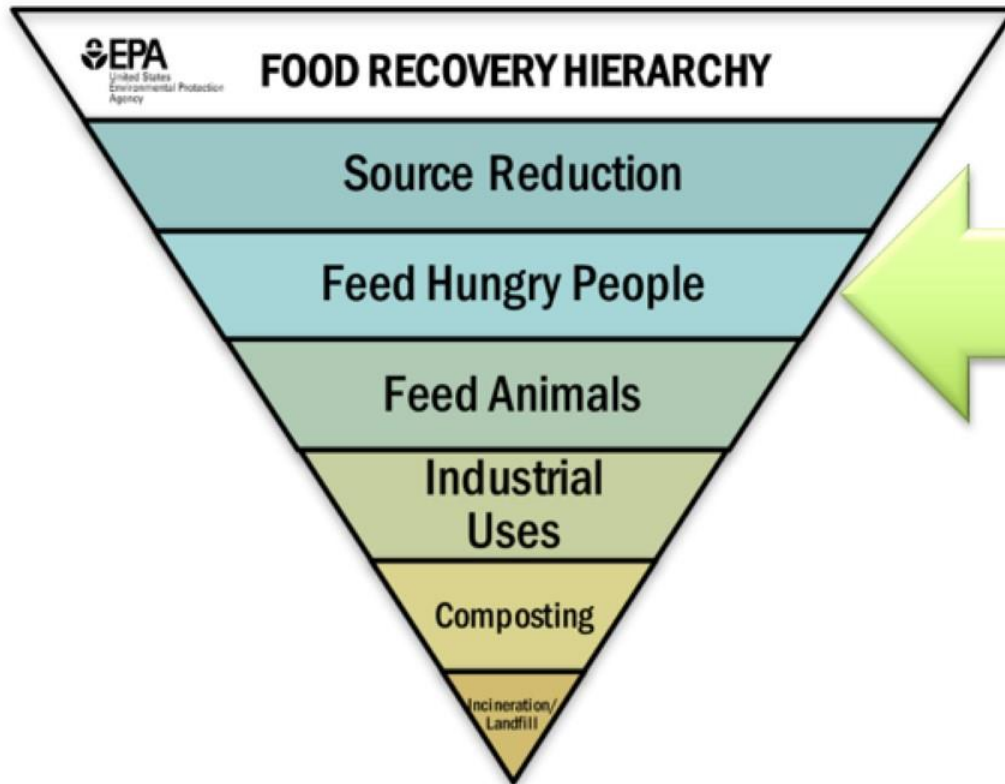
Food

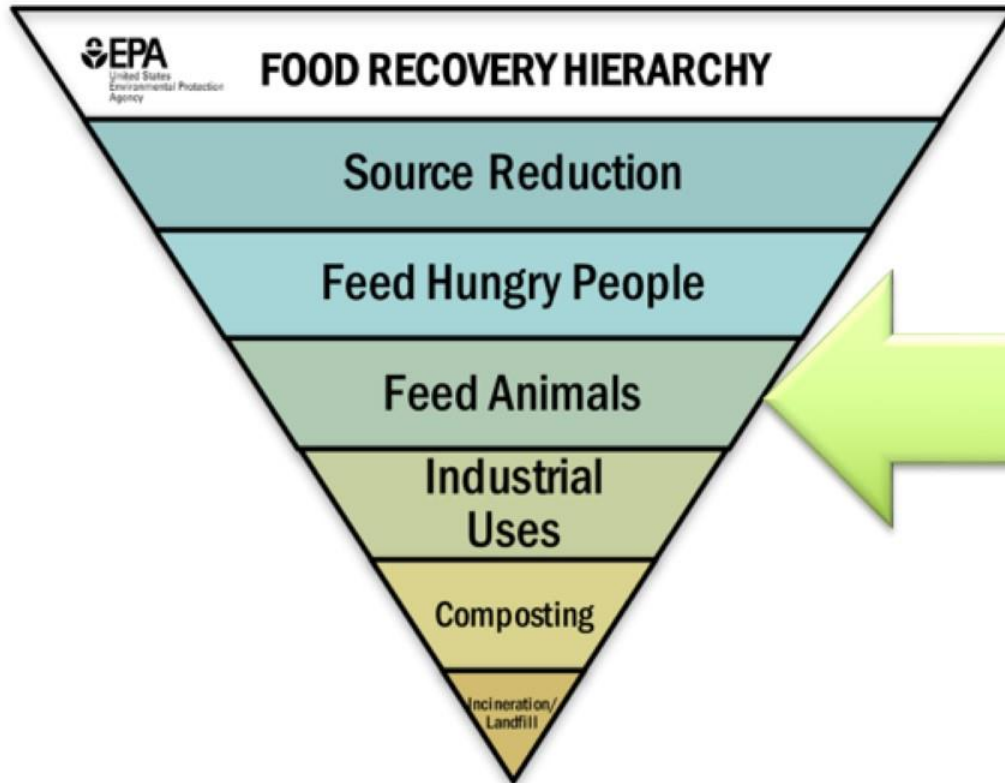
- 1 - buy it with thought
- 2 - cook it with care
- 3 - serve just enough
- 4 - save what will keep
- 5 - eat what would spoil
- 6 - home-grown is best

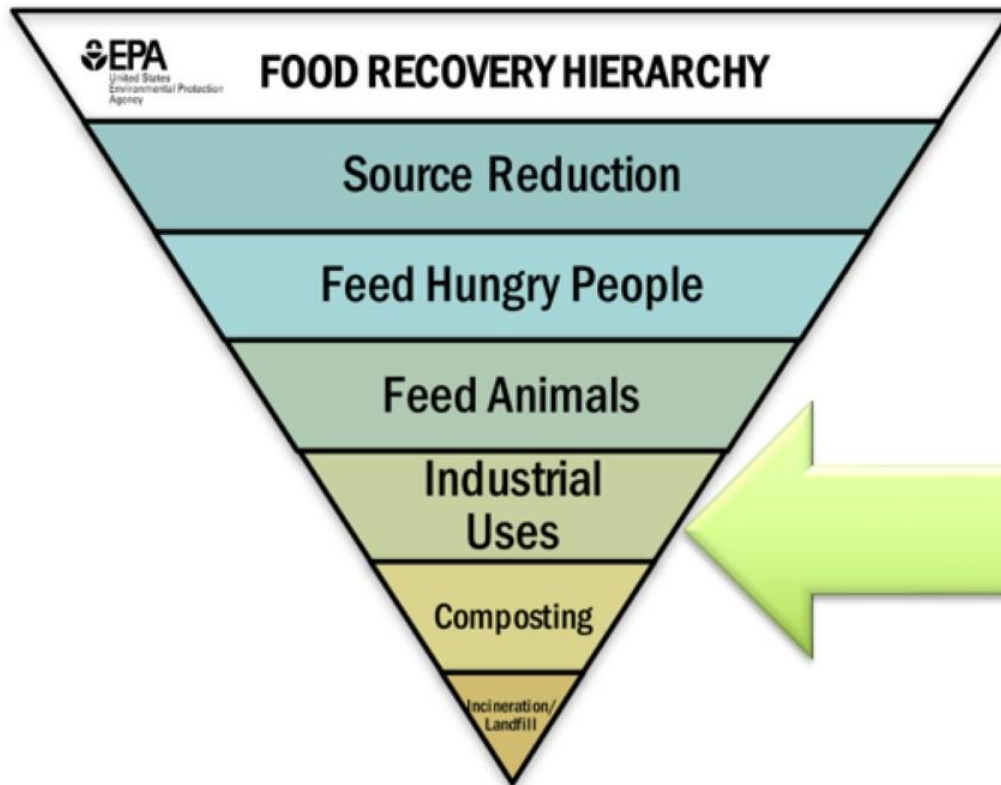
don't waste it

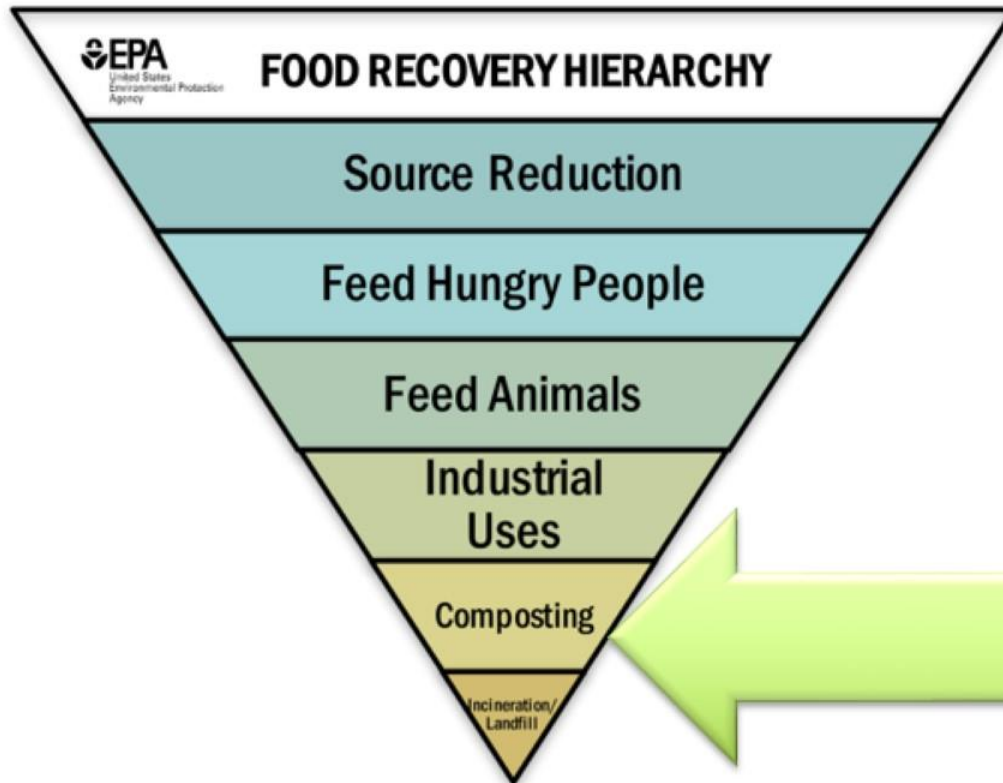
COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF FOOD ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, PHILADELPHIA











US EPA Food Recovery Challenge



- **A national annual award/recognition program for governments, educational institutions, businesses, entertainment venues, nonprofits, hospitals, etc.**
- **To join, call: (213) 244-1813**
- **LA County DPH is an official Endorser**



Donating Surplus Food



LA County Food Redistribution Initiative (LACFRI)

Ensuring that all surplus food is redistributed to highest and best uses through policy and education.





LACFRI Steering Committee

Government Agencies



LA County
Chief Sustainability Office

Nonprofits



LOS ANGELES REGIONAL



Fighting Hunger. Giving Hope.

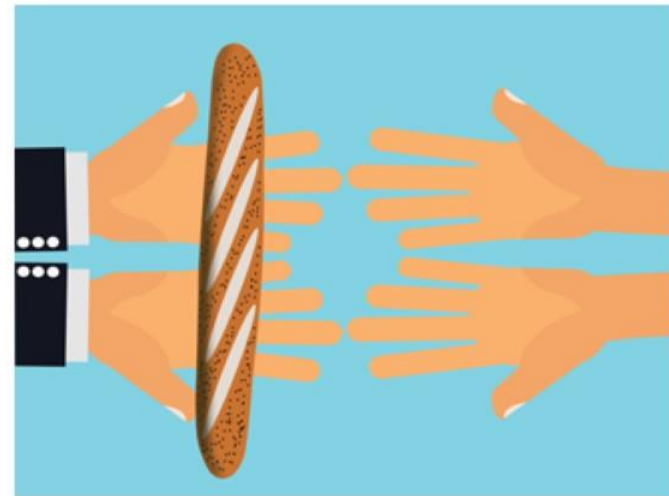


Private Sector



Reasons why food facilities may choose to donate food

- Corporate social responsibility/PR
- Tax incentives
- Reduce negative environmental impact
- Meet state waste mandates





Liability Concerns

- “One of the key liability concerns reported was maintaining proper chain of custody and generally having confidence that donations are handled safely to reduce risk to the donor”

Branding Concerns





Health Department Concerns

- Perception that donation is prohibited by health departments.
- Quality of donated food = Quality of food sold to paying customers
- **LADPH supports this. It's in our State health code!**
- 2018 – Health inspector trainings



Permitted Food Facilities

- **...such as** restaurants, hotels, grocers, food processing facilities, food distributors, and caterers may donate* the following to nonprofits and directly to individuals:
 - Whole produce
 - Prepared food from food facilities
 - Prepackaged food
 - Expired prepackaged food
- * Foods previously served to a consumer generally cannot be donated.*



Private Households

- Individuals and private households can donate uncooked, pre-packaged food products (e.g. canned food items, box cereals, etc.) to local nonprofit organizations.

Food Donation Liability Protections

- **Federal**
- **State (CA)**

- **Tax Incentives**
 - Visit www.refed.com



Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act of 1996



- “A person or gleaner shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability arising from the nature, age, packaging, or condition of apparently wholesome food or an apparently fit grocery product that the person or gleaner donates **in good faith to a nonprofit organization** for ultimate distribution to needy individuals.”

Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act of 1996



- Donor donates to a nonprofit
- Food meets federal, state, and local quality and labeling requirements
- Nonprofit must distribute to needy individuals
- End recipient may not pay for it

California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act of 2018



- Expands provisions to **persons and gleaners**
- Authorizes permitted food donors to engage in **direct donation**
- Liability protection applies to the donation of food that is fit for consumption **that has exceeded the labeled shelf life date**
- Enforcement officials shall promote the recovery of food fit for human consumption during normal routine inspections



California Health and Safety Code Section 114432

Food facility food donations

“A person, gleaner, or food facility **may donate food** to a food bank or any other nonprofit charitable organization for distribution to persons free of charge. Food facilities may donate food directly to end recipients for consumption.”



California Health and Safety Code Section 114433

Criminal liability

“A person, gleaner, or food facility that donates food as permitted by Section 114432 **shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability** or penalty for violation of any laws, regulations, or ordinances regulating the labeling or packaging of the donated product or, with respect to any laws, regulations, or ordinances, for a violation occurring after the time of the donation.”

Senate Bill 557: Food Donations and Pupil Meals – Schools (2018)



- Allows schools to have share tables and donation programs
- Surplus food from schools may be donated to any 501c3 organization

Senate Bill 557: Food Donations and Pupil Meals – Schools (2018)



- Carts or tables where food service staff, pupils, and faculty may place unconsumed food and beverage items* and make those food items available to pupils during the course of a regular school mealtime.

***specifics are on the CA Dept. of Ed. webpage**

Senate Bill 557: Food Donations and Pupil Meals – Schools (2018)



- California Health and Safety Code
Section 114079

Surplus Food Donation Challenges for Donors

- Lack of resources
- Liability concerns
- Branding concerns
- Lack of connections





Ways for Food Facilities to Donate Food

- Donation Experts
- Food Rescue Organizations
- Food Donation Apps
- Gleaners
- Pantries, Soup Kitchens, etc.
- Food Banks
- Direct Donation



Food Donation Apps

- Most are in pilot stage.
- 25+ apps throughout the US and Europe

Some examples (not comprehensive)

Copia (Bay Area) – pick-up requested through a mobile app, picked up by a certified food handler, delivered to a local nonprofit

ReFEED America (LA County) – in development phase. Similar to Copia.



Find Food Rescue Groups on our Website

www.SaveTheFoodLA.com

- Click “Resources for Businesses”
- Then click: Feed People, Not Landfills



Main Points:

- Leverage existing projects and systems
- Food travels, work **collaboratively!**
- Keep messaging consistent and clear



Food Safety Questions

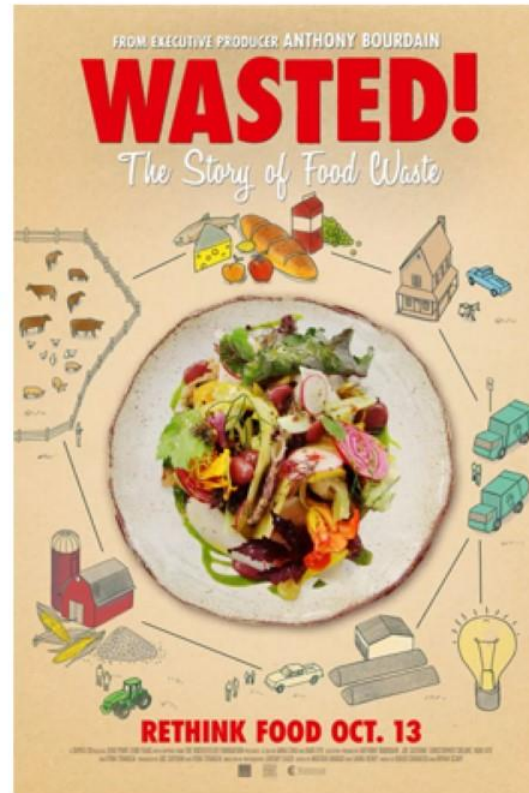
Environmental Health General Hotline

1 (888) 700-9995



Recommended Viewing

- DIVE! (2009)
- Just Eat It (2014)
- Wasted! The Story of Food Waste (2017)





Questions?

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