Overview of EPA’s Wasted Food Opportunities Map
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Map Overview

• Identifies **potential wasted food generators** and estimated quantities from institutional, commercial & industrial facilities
• Identifies **potential recipients** of wasted food
• Best used in combination with other publicly available complementary tools and information to identify strategic opportunities for location-specific management of food loss & waste
• Potential users include:
  – Cities, states, or counties wanting a better understanding of wasted food generation and potential recipients
  – Prospective project developers (e.g., compost or AD facility)
  – Private sector and nonprofits working to reduce wasted food
  – Manufacturers with excess product
Functionality of Map

The map **does** provide:

- Geographic locations of potential generators and recipients
- Estimates of wasted food generation rates at the establishment level
- Select contact information
- Service area for communities with organics collection programs
- Estimated edible fraction of wasted food for grocery stores & supermarkets only
- Plate waste estimates for colleges & universities only

The map **does not** provide:

- Exact measurements of wasted food
- Indication of existing generator diversion activity
- Capacity of potential recipients to accept wasted food
- Estimates of on-farm wasted food (except for animal farms) or that from the food services sector
Potential Generators of Wasted Food

• More than 1.3 million wasted food-generating establishments identified
• More than 660,000 establishments mapped across 89 industries
• Industries grouped as follows:
  – Correctional facilities
  – Educational institutions
  – Food banks
  – Food manufacturers & processors
  – Food wholesalers & distributors
  – Healthcare facilities
  – Hospitality industry
  – *Food services sectors (not mapped in this version)
Potential Recipients of Wasted Food

- Recipients represent more than:
  - 300 food banks
  - 1,400 AD facilities
  - 2,000 composting facilities
  - 79,000 animal farms

- Data sources include Feeding America, American Biogas Council, EPA’s AgStar program, state composting registries
How Users Can Leverage the Map

• Combine with other publicly available complementary tools and information to **identify strategic opportunities** for location-specific management of food loss & waste

• Support decision-making through identification of:
  – potential sources of food for rescue and reuse;
  – feedstocks for compost, anaerobic direction, or other wasted food processors;
  – potential infrastructure gaps for managing wasted food; and,
  – alternatives to sending wasted food to landfill.

• Download data, and adapt/adopt methodology, if desired
Map Demonstration
What’s Next for the WFOM?

Next Updated Version

Additional Improvements

User Feedback and Suggestions

CHANGING HOW WE THINK ABOUT OUR RESOURCES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

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Thank you!

Lana Suarez (suarez.lana@epa.gov)
Associate Chief, Materials Management Branch
Resource Conservation & Sustainability Division

https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food
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