

US EPA

Sustainable Food Management "Feed People Not Landfills"

September 29, 2011



EPA United States Environmental Protection Www.epa.gov/foodrecovery



What is "waste"?

"to fail or neglect to use; squander"

Business 101:

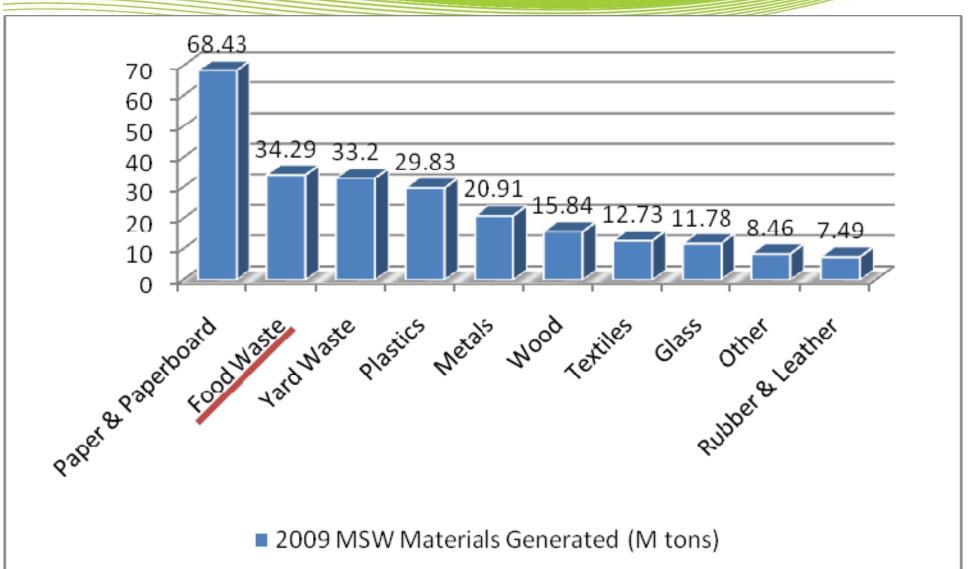
Waste = Inefficiency



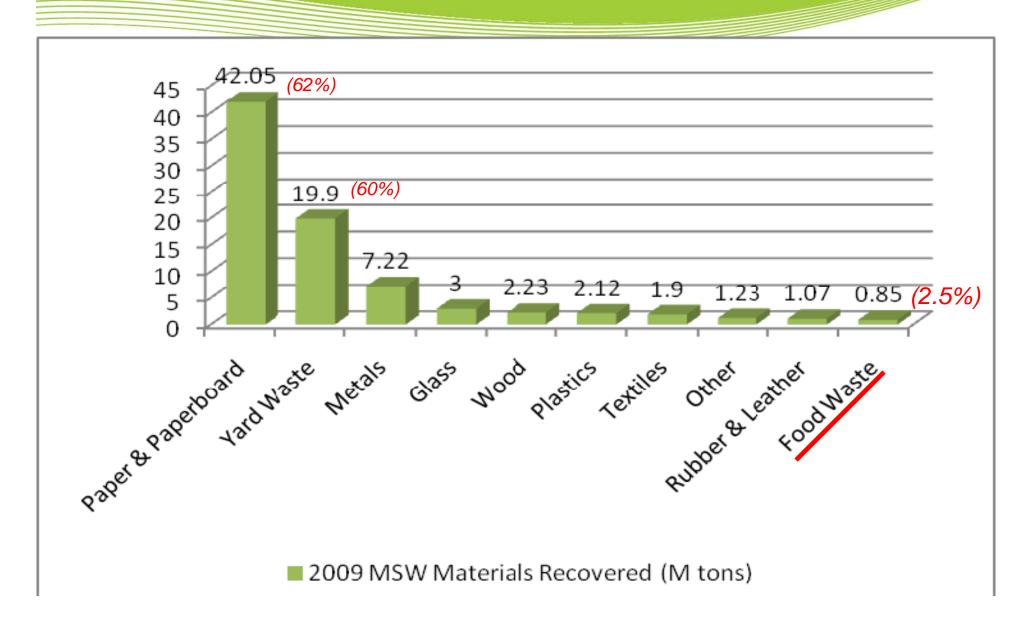


Waste Materials Generated

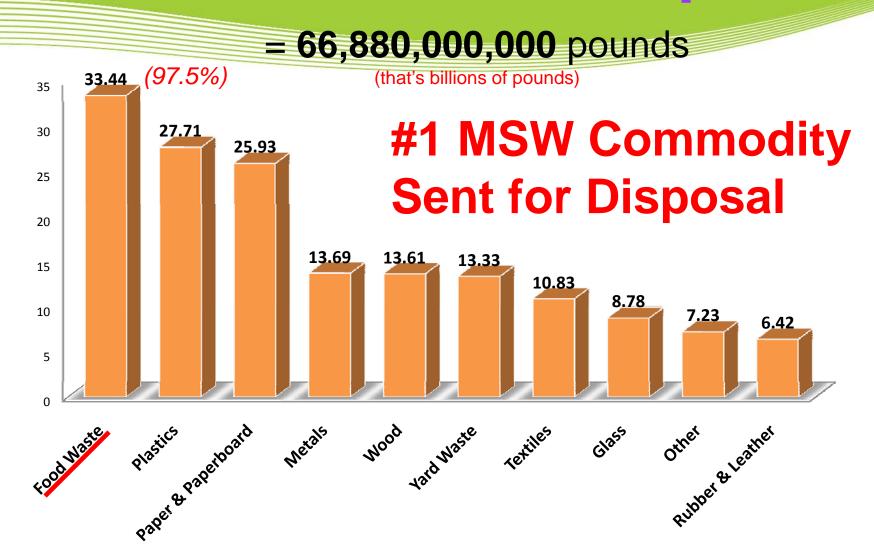
243 million tons total 34m tons are food waste



Materials Recycled / Composted



33.44 Million Tons Disposed





Where does it all go?



....to a landfill (a.k.a the dump)





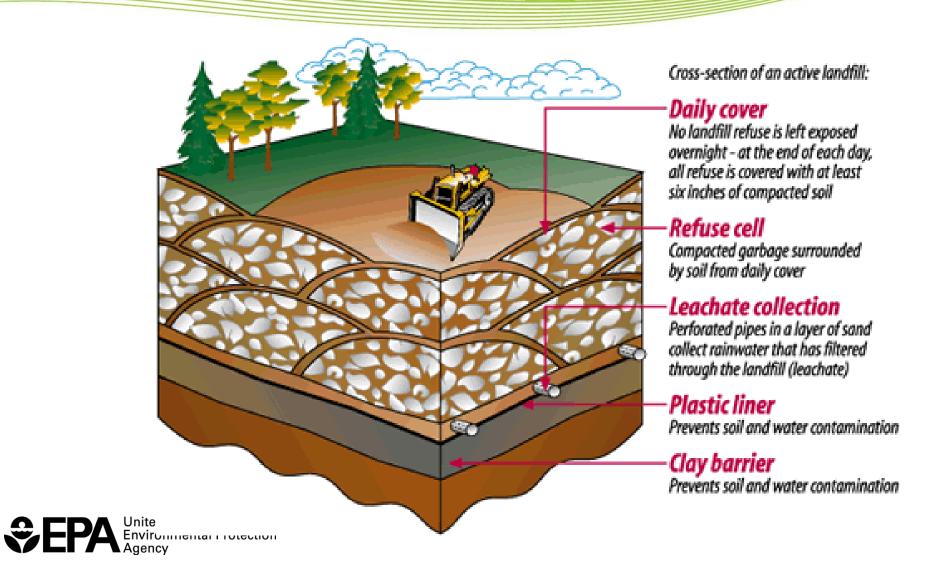
And this is a landfill





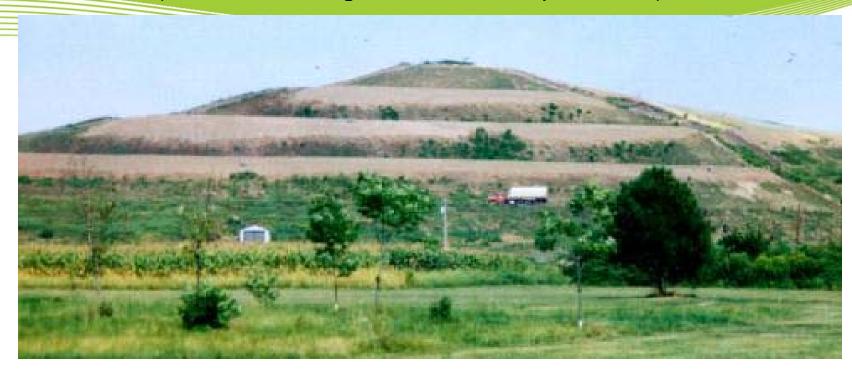


It doesn't go away ...it's neatly and safely stored in the ground



Forever – there is no "away"

(even for "biodegradables & compostables)



- * Landfills are the 2nd largest source of Methane
 - 21+ times more potent carbon dioxide
- * Generating Methane gas for decades
 - ... and food waste is a major cause of landfill Methane



Biggest Sources of Food Waste

(in order)

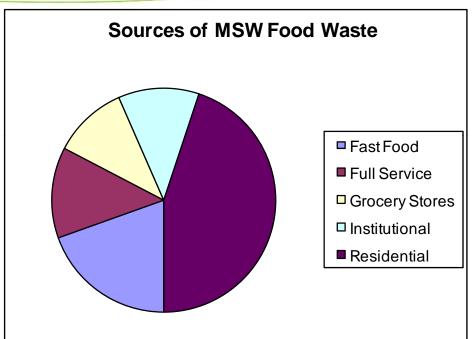
Commercial

- Restaurants
 - Fast Food
 - Full Service
- Grocery Stores
- Institutional
 - K-12, Universities,
 Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Prisons

Residential



- •Based on State waste characterization studies and population estimates.
- * Does not include agricultural and industrial food wastes



HUGE wasted resource

- Even a small percentage recovered could feed millions!
- Let's first Feed People Not Landfills





Which in Turn - Feeds People

Model for Sustainability

Balancing **Profits, Planet, People**

Save Money - Labor, Products, Waste disposal costs

Protect Natural Resources

Help **People**





The Life Cycle of Food and Drink Products

Agriculture

Soil Water Animal feed Agro-chemicals Pesticides Herbicides Energy



Soil loss Polluted runoff Greenhouse gases Wastewater Organic wastes Habitat loss Eutrophication



Food manufacturing

Water Energy Preservatives Ad diti ves Refrigerants Packaging materials





Waste









Water



Packaging



Air emissions



Transport

Fuels 0ils Refrigerants



Greenhouse gases Air emissions

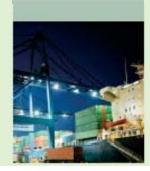
Retail and Distribution

Energy Refrigerants Packaging Fuels



Greenhouse gases Air emissions Solid wastes

Source: Confédération des Industries Agro-Alimentaires (CIAA), 2008





Households Food services

Water Energy Refrigerants Packaging



Waste water Greenhouse gases Air emissions Food waste Packaging waste



Sustainable Food Management

 Instead of constantly trying to manage this fast growing

waste stream ...

let's reduce it FIRST

• How? follow the

Food Recovery Hierarchy



Food Recovery Hierarchy

Source Reduction

Feed Hungry People

Feed Animals

Industrial Uses

Composting

Landfill/ Incineration





Feed People:

Families / Customers & Those in Need

- Step #1: Source Reduction reducing waste at the "source"
 - Reducing over-buying & processing wastes
 - Reducing over preps & plate waste
- Step #2: Feed Hungry People
 - Donating wholesome food, supplies and prepared foods to food banks, rescues, pantries, and kitchens



Source Reduction

"Back of the house"

"Front of the house"

- Sodexo
 - 8 college campuses cut kitchen waste by about one third, simply by tracking and monitoring food waste

United States
Environmental Protection

- - (2010 pilot)

- Virginia Tech - Trayless dining resulted in 38 %
 - less food waste
 - 2008 Aramark study on 25 campuses showed 25-30% less wasted food from trayless dining







Donations Make a Difference!

Walmart

- 2010: donated 256 million pounds (128,000 tons) of food to hunger relief organizations.* The equivalent of 197 million meals
- By 2013, the company expects to donate more than 1.1 billion pounds of food.
- 1.1 B lbs = <u>550,000 tons</u>

- Rock and Wrap It Up
- For 20101-11 season, NHL
 Clubs provided 160,000
 meals while keeping more
 than 105 tons of food waste
 from landfills.



- 2010 rescued & distributed nearly 19.4M lbs (9,700 tons)
- 2011 on track to rescue
 25M lbs (12,500 tons)













Making the Most of Your Resources

Step #3: Feed Animals

 Local farmers or zoos use food scraps as animal feed; food scraps processed into animal feed

Step #4: Industrial Uses

 Fat, oil and grease (FOG) can be converted into soaps, cosmetics, and biodiesel fuel; anaerobic digestion of food waste for energy production w/ residuals then being composted





Making the Most of Your Resources

- Step #5: Composting
 - Composting on-site or sending to off-site composting operation
- Step #6: Landfill/Incineration
 - Last resort is disposal
 - includes anaerobic digesters where the <u>digestate</u> (<u>residual</u>) is <u>landfilled</u> or <u>WTE where the ash is</u> <u>landfilled</u>



The Future?

- Connecticut Starting Oct 2011
- Passed a law that <u>requires companies to</u> <u>compost</u> if they produce more than 104 tons year of food waste & soiled unrecyclable paper. Applies to:
 - Commercial food wholesalers or distributors
 - Industrial food manufacturers or processors
 - Supermarkets
 - Resorts & conference centers



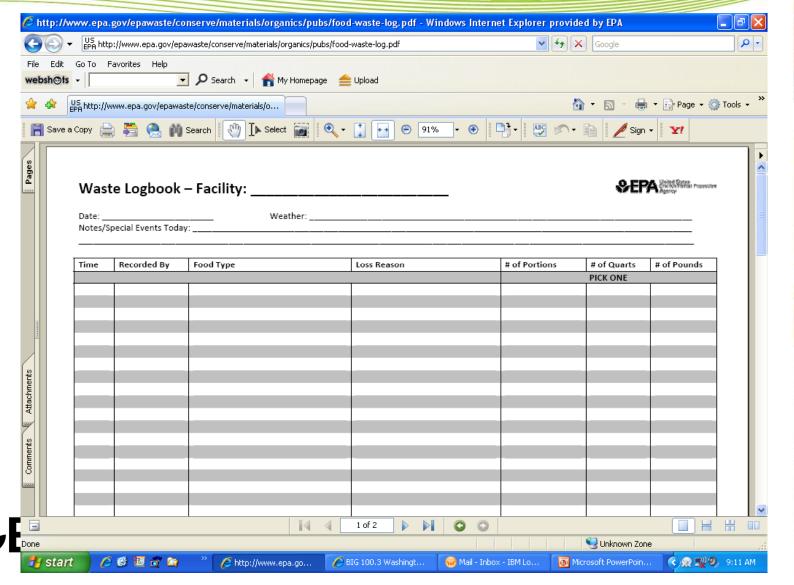
Web Page: www.epa.gov/foodrecovery







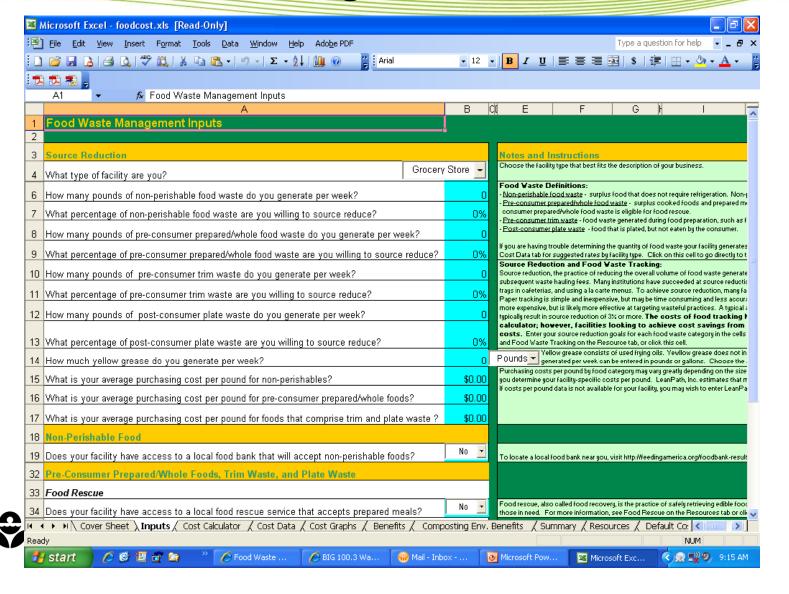
Waste Audit Sheet







Food Waste Management Cost Calculator

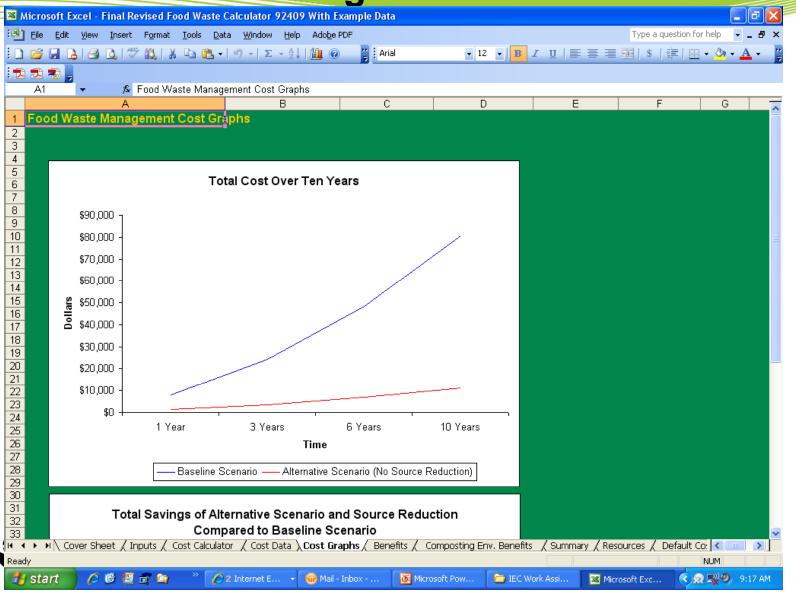








Food Waste Management Cost Calculator







Re-TRAC thru WasteWise

What WasteWise Re-TRAC does:

- Compiles and analyzes your waste management data and maintains historical files.
- Submits your annual data to the Food Recovery Challenge with just a click.
- Generates instant reports on program performance and trends, and calculates GHG emission reductions associated with your activities.
- Provides your official EPA Climate Profile report on an annual basis.

"The new Re-TRAC system is beyond fabulous. It really improves the data entering experience.
Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!" - Mariah Titlow Tinger, Senior Environmental Program Coordinator, Genzyme Corporation





We Need Champions Join Us!

- Food Waste: Huge Problem & Opportunity
- Take the Food Recovery Challenge and together – let's take a bite out of food waste!
- Participating organizations can receive <u>national recognition</u> for their outstanding Challenge achievements & leadership

www.epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge





Current Participants

38 Food Recovery Challenge Participants

- •Big Y Foods, Inc.
- Boston Organics
- Camp Ramah New **England**
- •Canon U.S.A., Inc.
- Chumash Casino Resort
- Clark University
- Colorado State University
- •Courtyard by Marriott & **Grappone Conference** Center
- •Grand Hyatt New York
- Harvard University
- Johnson County
- •K2 Sports
- Lathrop Retirement Communities
- Marathon Petroleum Company-Findlay Office

Complex

- Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- •Mel Trotter Ministries
- Mercury Cafe
- MGM Resorts International
- Mohegan Tribe of Indians of CT
- Ohio University
- •PRIZIM Inc.
- •Recycle Across America
- Recycle Used Cooking Oil from Home, LLC.
- Rock and Wrap it Up!

- Rutgers University
- Saint Paul RiverCentre/Xcel Energy Center
- San Diego Padres
- •Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc.
- Sheridan School
- St. Louis Cardinals
- •TD Garden
- The DOE Princeton Plasma Physics Lab
- U.S. Coast Guard Academy
- National Hockey League
 University of Tennessee at Martin
 - •Waste Less Living, Inc.
 - Weis Markets



Food Recovery Challenge

Four Easy Steps

- 1. Assess It! Conduct baseline food waste assessment
- 1. Plan It! Create a food waste reduction plan
- 2. Track It! Report annually using Re-TRAC
- 3. Do It! Undertake at lease three food waste reduction & recovery activities!



What We Can Do For You...

Recognition

- >Website
 - >Tools & Resources
- > Awards
- >Case Studies







What You Can Do ...

Reduce your costs
Improve your image
Feed your communities
Protect your environment





We Need Champions - Join Us!

To Do List:

- Join Us at:
 - www.epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge
- Do a Waste Audit Know What You Throw
 - (free tools on Food Recovery & WasteWise web pages)
- Contact Your Local Food Bank & Rescues
- Find a Local Composter (www.FindAComposter.com)
- Modify Your Service Contracts





Thank You

Questions?

For more info ... www.epa.gov/foodrecovery

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www.epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge



