

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Phoenix Area Food Recovery

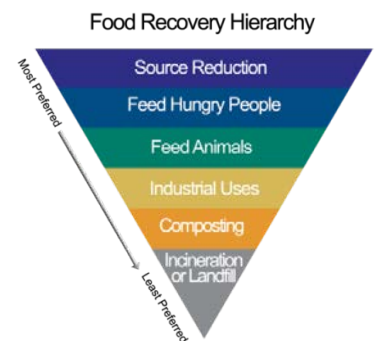
Links and Resources 2015

Learn about some food recovery alternatives in the Phoenix area. EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy prioritizes these food waste strategies from most to least preferable.

1. Source Reduction

Source reduction is the strategy of preventing food from becoming waste in the first place. There are many resources available to tackle source reduction:

- **U.S. EPA Food Recovery Website:** <http://epa.gov/foodrecovery>
 - » [Food and Packaging Waste Prevention Tool \(spreadsheet\)](#): Tracks the amount and reasons specific foods are wasted.
 - » [Reducing Wasted Food & Packaging: A Guide for Food Services and Restaurants](#): Provides guidance on using the prevention tool assessment results to save money and reduce waste.
 - » [Food Waste Management Calculator \(spreadsheet or PDF\)](#): Estimates the cost competitiveness and savings of alternatives to food waste disposal, including source reduction, donation, composting, and recycling of yellow grease.
- **National Restaurant Association ConServe Program:** <http://conserve.restaurant.org/Learn/Reduce-Waste-Recycle>: Provides resources and tools to help restaurants through each step of a food waste reduction program; provides videos to accompany many of the EPA resources listed above.
- **Leanpath:** www.leanpath.com: Company assists foodservice operations in reducing food waste, website provides many free tools, videos and case studies.



The Good Samaritan Act was created to prevent good surplus food from going to waste by protecting donor companies from liability when donating to charitable organizations.

Highlights:

- Encourages the donation of surplus food.
- Protects all food and grocery donors who donate in good faith to a non-profit organization.
- Exceptions are noted for gross negligence.
- Provides protection for food and grocery products that meet all quality labeling standards imposed by federal, state and local laws and regulations.

2. Feed Hungry People (Donations)

The resources below include national, regional and local organizations which take food donations in the Phoenix area. Most take non-perishables, and some accept surplus perishable foods. Be prepared to describe your donations in terms of packaging, preparation, frequency and type.

- **Food Pantries** - Many have varying or limited capabilities for storing food donations and therefore limit the types or timing of donations. It's often best to contact several to determine which can use your donations. Below are links to find local food pantries.
 - » **Ample Harvest:** www.ampleharvest.org/find-pantry.php
 - » **Food Pantries.org:** www.foodpantries.org/st/arizona: The following food pantries may accept perishable donations:

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Name	Contact	Hours
Phoenix Rescue Mission - Kitchen & Shelter	1801 S 35th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85009 (602) 233-3000	Daily 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Cultural Cup Food Bank	342 E Thomas Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85012 (602) 266-8370	Mon-Thu: 9:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Friendly House	113 W Sherman St, Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 257-1870	Mon-Thu: 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Salvation Army - Mesa Citadel Family Services	241 E. 6th St., Bldg. 3 Mesa, AZ, 85201 (480) 833-8322	Mon-Thu: 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Fri: 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.

- Rock and Wrap It Up!**: <http://rockandwrapitup.org>: Matches vetted charities with eligible donors of perishable food including entertainment venues, hotels, K-12 schools and colleges, sports teams, and hospitals. Offers the free "Whole Earth Calculator" to convert pounds of food to pounds of CO2 equivalent (CO2e); eventmobi.com/rwu1
- Waste Not**: www.wastenotaz.org: Picks up and delivers perishable food the same day; do not warehouse or store food.
 - » 170 North Granite Reef Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85257; (620) 721-3454;
 - » Food donations: Monday-Friday: 6 am – 4 pm, Saturday: 6 am – 11 am
 - » Food donation criteria:
 - Enough food to feed 20-25 people.
 - As much advance notice as possible; pick-ups are made during morning hours with deliveries scheduled for the afternoon.
 - » Service Area: Trucks operate Monday through Saturday from the 101 West to the 101 East and from the 101 North, south to Chandler Boulevard. Can pick-up outside the service area, or connect with a facility that would appreciate the food donation.
- The 3000 Club Market on the Move**: <http://the3000club.org/index.php/component/k2/item/2?Itemid=342>; Targeted at grocery stores, Market on the Move provides a farmers' market atmosphere at various locations throughout Metro Phoenix and Tucson areas where partners and supporters of this program can make a \$10 donation to receive up to 60 lbs. of fresh produce. Donations can be made at the host site.
- Flash Food (mobile app in testing currently in the Phoenix area)**: <http://flashfoodrecovery.com>; connects food service businesses with donation options. The FlashFood mobile application offers food service businesses to donate perishable, unserved, leftover food to people in need, and take advantage of enhanced Federal tax deductions.
- Food Banks**: Regional food banks work with local food pantries, homeless shelters and other charities for food donation. While many food banks are unable to accept perishable and prepared food, they often work with donors to find perishable food options nearby. Listed below is the main food bank in the Phoenix area.

Donation Center	Location	Contact	Type of Food Accepted
St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance	2831 N. 31st Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85009	(602) 242-FOOD (3663) www.firstfoodbank.org	Non-perishables; accepts perishable, but not prepared food; items need ingredient label
United Food Bank	245 South Nina Dr. Mesa, AZ 85210	(480) 926-4897 https://unitedfoodbank.org/	Non-perishables; everything has to be sealed; works with agencies that prepare hot meals and can take perishables
Paradise Valley Emergency Food Bank	10862 N 32nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85028	(602) 867-9228 www.foodpantries.org/li/paradise-valley-emergency-food-bank	Mostly non-perishables, but do receive some doughnuts and bakery items; interested in perishables

(1) LIABILITY OF PERSON OR GLEANER – 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.

— Courtesy of the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act

3. Feed Animals

- **Pig/Hog Farms:** Large pig farms may accept food scraps. The Federal Swine Health Protection Act requires that food containing, or that comes in contact with meat or animal materials must be boiled before being fed to pigs. Consequently, many local pig farmers are primarily interested in single-stream fruits and vegetables or grain waste. Arrangements are often informal, and can be intermittent.

Pig Farm	Location	Information
Arizona Berkshires/ Hopkins Hog Farm	22332 W. Hilton Ave., Buckeye, AZ 85326 (623) 386-2267 Aguila, AZ 85320 (928) 685-3227	http://arizonapork.com/

- **Spent Brewery Grain:** Spent brewery grain can be used as animal feed, primarily for cattle, but also for pigs, goats, fish and almost any livestock. Most breweries give the grain away to local farms. Manufacturers with single food waste streams can find local farms and ranches to donate their excess/by-product.

4. Industrial Uses

Fats, oils and grease, also known as FOG, can be converted to fuels and has various industrial uses. Phoenix area options and resources include:

- **Waste to Biogas Resources:** <http://epamap21.epa.gov/biogas/index.html>. Searchable database of local biogas facilities that may accept FOG or food waste.
- **Baker Commodities Inc.:**
 - » <http://bakercommodities.com/our-locations/phoenix-az/>;
 - (602) 254-5971
 - » FOG collection, grease trap maintenance
- **A Greener Day Recycling:** <http://agreenerdayrecycling.org>;
- (928) 567-7060
 - » Recycles cooking oil into fuels
 - » Free pickup
- **Greecycle:** www.greecycle.com; (520) 628-4300
 - » Recycles cooking oil into fuels
 - » Pickup and drop-off locations
- **REV Biodiesel:** www.revbiodiesel.com; (480) 398-4888
 - » Recycles cooking oil into biodiesel
 - » Partnered with the Town of Gilbert, City of Tempe and City of Mesa Fire Departments for cooking oil drop off locations

Phoenix FOG Regulations:

- Requires grease traps and proper disposal.
- <http://www.codepublishing.com/az/phoenix/frameless/index.pl?path=../html/Phoenix28/Phoenix2801.html>
- AZ FOG Group: <http://azfog.org>



5. Food Scraps Composting

Composting turns food scraps into a nutrient-rich soil amendments and can be done on site in smaller amounts or on a larger scale at a municipal or commercial level.

- **Find a Composter:** www.findacomposter.com: Searchable database of local composting facilities that may accept food waste; results from January 2015 search are included in the table below.

Composting Facility	Location	Hours	Contact
Green Organics Recycling	420 E Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ 85282	Contact for info	(602) 792.0275 www.gorecycling.us
Recycled City	Service area: Tempe, Mesa, Phoenix, Chandler, Gilbert, Ahwatukee, Scottsdale, Cave Creek, Peoria, Glendale, Avondale, Goodyear, and Buckeye	Weekly compost collection service with supplied bin	(480) 269-5149 www.recycledcity.com/
Eco Scraps (Commercial/Institutional Cart, Drop off/Self-Haul, Dumpster/Compactor, Fruit Boxes)	1025 S 51st Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85043	Receives food scraps from St. Mary's Food Bank	(801) 513-3330 http://ecoscraps.com/
Singh Farms	8900 E Thomas Road Scottsdale, AZ 85250	Contact for info	singhfarms@netscape.net
Diversified Organics (Drop off/Self-Haul)	91st Ave 1/8mi s of Broadway, Tolleson, AZ 85353	Contact for info	(480) 550-0858

Phoenix Food Recovery Successes:

Several Phoenix breweries, including Desert Eagle, Phoenix Ale, Four Peaks, and 8th Street Brewery, and SanTan Brewing donate spent grain to local customers for feed for horses, goats, and ostriches.

Sprouts Farmers Market [donates](#) produce that is no longer marketable, but still safe and edible to local Feeding America affiliate, St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance and Church. Sprouts Farmers Market plans to provide stores with compost bins to compost food that cannot be donated to the food rescue program.

The Waste Management Phoenix Open Golf Tournament:

[Zero Waste efforts](#) included replaced trash bins on the course with composting and recycling bins starting in 2012 in its effort to hold a zero waste event for its 500,000 spectators. The 2014 tournament recycling efforts conserved over 600 mature trees, 368,000 gallons of water, 471,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity and nearly 1,000 yards of landfill space.



For More Information:

EPA Food Waste website:

www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/foodwaste