

The Food Recovery Program



Overview

- **Food Recovery/Rescue/Salvage**
The practice of collecting edible food that would otherwise go to waste from places such as restaurants, grocery stores, produce markets, or farms and distributing it to local food programs.
- **Food Insecurity**
The state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.
- **Field Gleaning**
The act of collecting leftover crops from farmers' fields after they have been commercially harvested or on fields where it is not economically profitable to harvest.



Why is Food Recovery Important?

- Millions of pounds of surplus and slightly blemished fresh fruit and vegetables are destroyed each year, while many residents of this state go each day without food.
- 40% of the food produced in the USA goes uneaten.
- Food makes up 21% of landfill weight.
- 1 in 6 American families is food insecure, including more than 13 million children.



Food Recovery in Florida

- Agriculture is Florida's 2nd largest industry
- More than 47,000 farms statewide with over 300 commodities
- Uses local resources
- Provides healthy options for families in need
- Supports local farmers
- Promotes Community Engagement

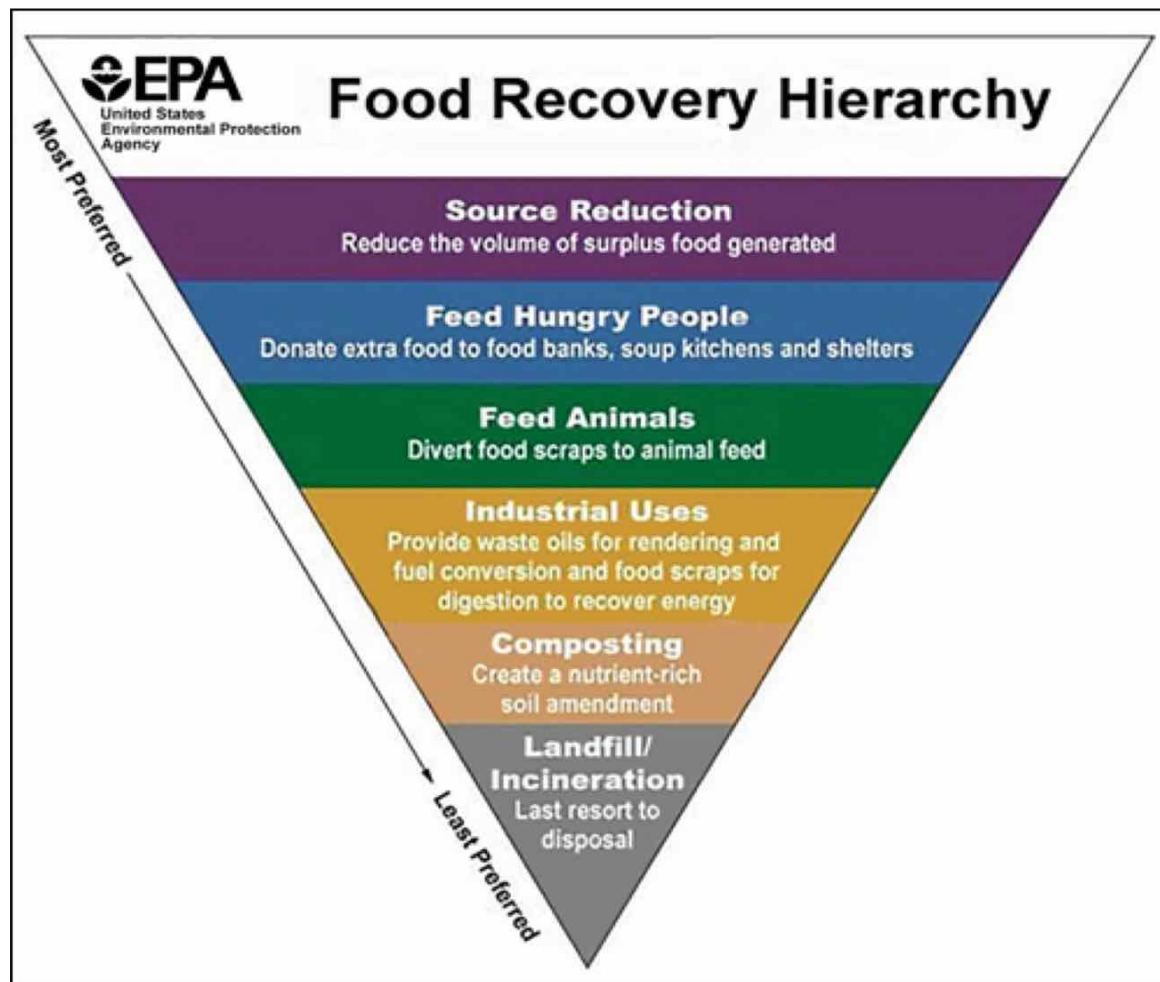


Purpose of the Food Recovery Program

- Reduces food waste on farms and in schools.
- Helps students improve their access to wholesome foods;
- Provides surplus food to local volunteer and nonprofit organizations for distribution;
- Offers healthier food options to those in need; and

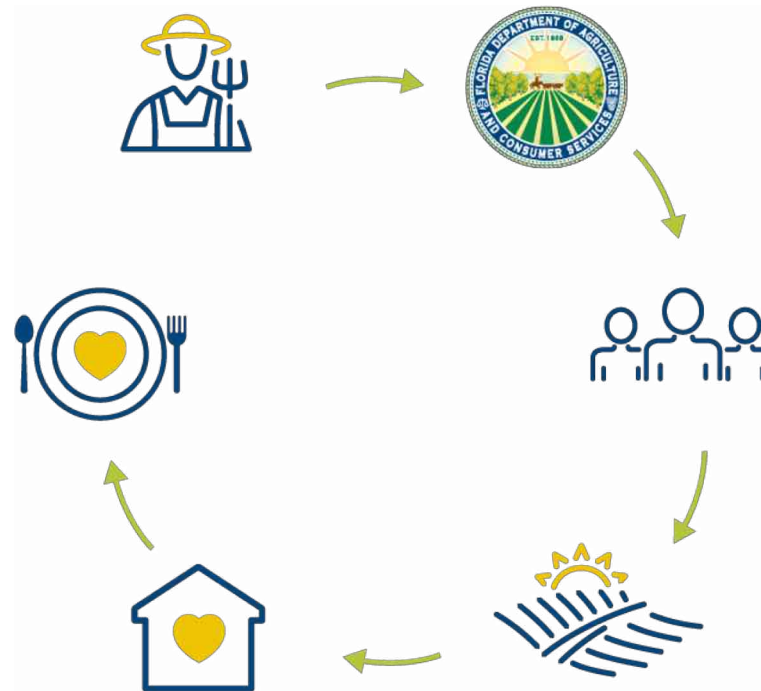


How to Reduce Food Waste



Food Recovery Process on the Farm

- FDACS's Food Recovery Specialist will handle all the logistics and make the gleaning process quick and easy!
- Trained volunteers go to the farmer's field and collect produce.
- A donation receipt will be mailed or emailed to you.



Food Recovery in Schools

- **Source Reduction**
 - **Food Waste Audit**
- **Share Tables**
- **Donate to a Food Pantry**
- **School Gardens**
- **Compost**



Protection from Civil and Criminal Liability

- **The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act of 1996**
 - ❑ Protects individuals and nonprofit organizations from civil and criminal liability associated with the donation of apparently wholesome foods if donated in “good faith.” The Act also protects farmers from civil and criminal liability in the event individuals collecting food for donation to charity are injured on their property, except in cases of gross negligence.
- **Liability for canned or perishable food distributed free of charge - FLA. STAT. § 768.136 (2014)**
 - ❑ Protects a food donor or gleaner who donates food to a charitable or nonprofit organization, and the charitable or non-profit organization which accepts, collects, transports, or distributes such food without charge, from criminal or civil liability arising from the condition of the food, except in cases of gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct.
- **Definition; limitation of civil liability for certain farmers - FLA. STAT. § 768.137 (1997).**
 - ❑ This law protects any farmer who allows persons to enter the land for the purpose of removing any crops that remain in the fields after harvest from civil liability “arising out of any injury or death resulting from the nature or condition of such land or the nature, age, or condition of any such farm produce or crop,” except in cases of gross negligence, intentional act, or nondisclosure of known dangerous conditions.

The Federal Enhanced Tax Deduction for Food Donations



- Who is Eligible for the Deduction?
 - Any business, including farms, that donates apparently wholesome food for a charitable purpose to a qualified organization can claim the enhanced federal tax deduction.
- Increase in donation cap to 15% of donor's net income
- Please see the Farmer's Guide to Food Donations for more information on potential tax incentives for donating farmers.

Food Recovery in Palm Beach County

- 75,000 lbs. of fresh produce has been recovered and donated in Palm Beach County since December 2017
- Heritage Farms was recently highlighted in the Palm Beach Post for their participation in The Food Recovery Program



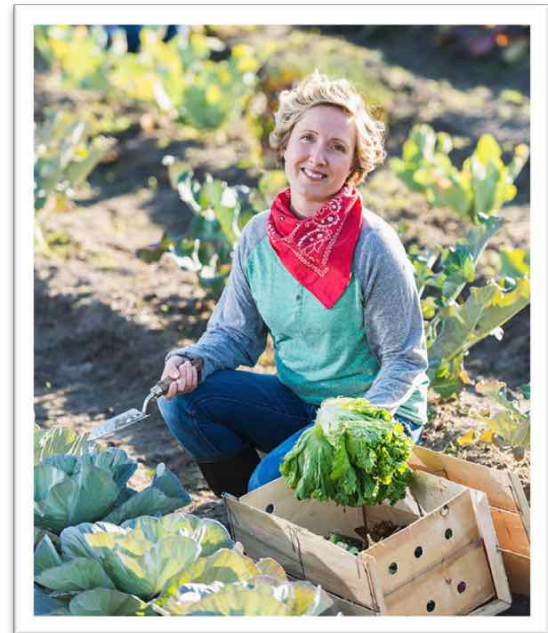
What is FDACS' role?

- Identify suppliers, volunteers and nonprofit organizations interested in food recovery;
- Offer organizational meetings in communities to facilitate and provide support at the local level;
- Increase public awareness of the program.



How can you help?

- Share this information with farmer's in your county!
- Coming soon – FDACS resource tool.





Thank You!

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