



# Madison Food Policy Council & Dane County Food Council

Meeting of Wednesday, July 21, 2021

# Quick Introduction



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# Quick History – Food Waste Diversion



2011 – Started with 500 volunteer homes and a handful of businesses

- Over the next 7 years, the program grew slowly
- Grew to close to 1,100 homes and several businesses
- Also processors changed multiple times

2018 - The organics program ended

2019 - Ran a short-term curbside trial in 2019

2019-2021 – EPA Grant: Anaerobic Digester Feasibility Study

<https://madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9233854&GUID=71C8B18E-CD8D-429E-83A8-68EB8DEAB2F5>

2021 – NRDC Food Matters initiative: Great Lakes Cohort

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/news/city-of-madison-accepted-into-great-lakes-cohort-of-nrdcs-food-matters-initiative>

# NRDC – Food Matters Initiative



Since 2016, as part of the Food Matters project, NRDC has partnered with cities to achieve meaningful reductions in food waste through comprehensive policies and programs. NRDC has been working with a network of municipalities, including Baltimore, Denver and Nashville, to drive systemwide food waste reduction.

Building upon our established regional cohorts in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic, we are expanding our work with cities in the Great Lakes region of the United States. The goal of this initiative is to:

- **Catalyze innovation to** curtail food waste at a regional level.
- **Further expand cities' leadership** on food waste through collaborative strategy development and shared learning.
- **Create a network of support** for cities in a common region to advance progress on the ground, **leverage shared knowledge**, and overcome hurdles more quickly.



# NRDC – Food Matters Initiative



## CORE REQUIREMENTS:

- [1] **Convene a local working group** to drive progress on selected strategies
- [2] Develop and implement a **multi-year work plan** to address food waste
- [3] Provide a quote from the mayor or another senior official for the press release announcement of partnership
- [4] Participate in the regional cohort
- [5] Submit bi-annual progress reports including, but not limited to, narrative and metrics around the city's progress on agreed upon strategies



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## CORE REQUIREMENTS:

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CITY OF **MADISON**



## Additional Meeting

**Meeting** [Sustainable Madison Committee - Zero Waste Work Group](#)

**Date** Wednesday, Jul. 14, 2021 at 3:00 pm

**Location** Virtual

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# NRDC – Food Matters Initiative



## Multi-Year Work Plan

**Strategy 1:** Enact city ordinance or official act by the Mayor or City Council and/or create or adjust city-level policy related to food waste

**Strategy 2:** Include food waste prevention messaging in existing literature distribution and on website and/or Use Save the Food ads in public spaces

**Strategy 3:** Implement organics waste collection at city offices and city-leased properties and/or establish drop-off locations for food scraps and work with community to process

**Strategy 4:** Sponsor a food waste “challenge” to engage businesses

**Strategy 5:** Conduct health inspector training and distribute information to food businesses encouraging food donation and prevention from food facilities



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### 65064 Draft Food Waste Resolution

- Strategy 1 Brought to the Zero Waste Working Group in March
- Draft developed through June
- Brought to the Sustainable Madison Committee June 28<sup>th</sup>
  - *Motion by Ald. Evers, seconded by Lance to take the resolution to the next Food Policy Council for input and to bring to Common Council as a joint resolution*
- Finalize Goal and incorporate NRDC recommendations at Zero Waste Working Group July 14<sup>th</sup>
- Sustainable Madison Committee Review on July 26<sup>th</sup>
- Introduce / Vote at Madison Common Council in August

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## 65064 Draft Food Waste Resolution

WHEREAS the City of Madison has several goals related to increasing food waste diversion, increasing renewable energy, and advancing sustainable food systems as described below; and,

WHEREAS food waste comprises over 20% of the waste stream collected by the City of Madison, which means 10,000 tons of food scraps are sent to the Dane County landfill; and,

WHEREAS, as of 2021, the Dane County Landfill has approximately 10 years of usable life remaining at its current site; and,

WHEREAS the Common Council initially set the City of Madison on a zero-waste trajectory by passing a resolution in 2008 to set a goal of 65% waste diversion by recycling and composting by 2010 with progress towards the ultimate goal of zero waste; and,

WHEREAS, source reduction has the greatest climate benefits as well as saving water, fuel, and money; and,

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## 65064 Draft Food Waste Resolution

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Special Report on Climate Change and Land highlights the interconnectedness of a changing climate, sustainable land-use management, enhanced food security, enhancing local collective action, and policies that reduce food loss and waste and operate across the food system; and,

WHEREAS the adopted 2012 Madison Sustainability Plan emphasizes the nexus of food waste and energy through goals to prevent solid waste from entering the landfill to obtain 25% of Electricity, Heating, and Transportation Energy from Clean Energy Sources by 2025; and,

WHEREAS, in 2017 the Madison Common Council passed a resolution to update the Energy and Carbon Goals in the Madison Sustainability Plan to aim for 100% renewable energy and net-zero carbon emissions or better by 2050 or sooner; and,

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## 65064 Draft Food Waste Resolution

WHEREAS the recommendations in the Madison Sustainability Plan and the 100% Renewable Madison Report are already underway; for example, in March of 2021 the Madison Common Council accepted the Final Anaerobic Digester Feasibility Study which assed the feasibility of utilizing an anaerobic digester for food waste; and,

WHEREAS according to Public Health Madison Dane County the rate of food insecurity at the county level can exceed one in three households for vulnerable groups and food waste diversion efforts can help strengthen sustainable food systems; and,

WHEREAS, the Madison Comprehensive Plan has strategies to encourage emergency food system and facilitate donation of near-expired, but high-quality, foods and establish a city-wide food scrap recycling program in the neighborhoods and housing and green & resilient sections;

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## 65064 Draft Food Waste Resolution

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Madison that the City will:

- Set a food waste diversion goal of 50% from the landfill by 2030 and establish metrics for measuring and tracking said goal
- Educate the public on food waste reduction benefits and landfill diversion alternatives
- The Sustainable Madison Committee will review and advise of efforts and updating of goals related toward food waste reduction efforts
- Support this cross-sector goal which requires budgetary and city staff support to meet the timelines set in these inter-related goals
- Commit appropriate city committees and staff to collaborate with local organizations and governments to identify and implement actions that reduce food insecurity

# NRDC – Food Matters Initiative



## 65064 Draft Food Waste Resolution

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Madison that the City will work to provide leadership, funding, and programmatic resources to support food waste diversion efforts to meet renewable energy goals and advance sustainable food systems.

<https://daneclimateaction.org/documents/CAP-2020/Dane-Co-Climate-Action-Plan-202004- web.pdf>

[https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recoveryhierarchy\\_.html](https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recoveryhierarchy_.html)

<https://www.ipcc.ch/srccl/>

[https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/4/2020/02/SPM\\_Updated-Jan20.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/4/2020/02/SPM_Updated-Jan20.pdf)

<https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ar4-wg1-chapter2-1.pdf>

# NRDC – Food Matters Initiative



## Multi-Year Work Plan

**Strategy 2:** Include food waste prevention messaging in existing literature distribution and on website and/or Use Save the Food ads in public spaces

- Bus Wrap
- Posters
- Stickers
- Magnets
- Social Media
- Website

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/food-scraps/>



We can end food waste. We just need to follow these four steps:

- PLAN
  - Meal planning can save you money AND help save the earth's resources. The ultimate win-win..
- USE
  - Proper storage and using what you buy means not wasting food.
- CREATE
  - Cook end-to-stem, transform leftovers, and use imperfect fruits
  - And if possible create opportunity for others by donating
- SCRAP
  - Compost your food scraps in your own backyard, or with the City's program.
    - City drop-off program will end on July 17, 2021.

### GUIDE

[Food Waste and Recovery Guide for Madison and Dane County](#)

- Guidebook developed in 2018 by the Dane County Food Council, the Madison Food Policy Council, Dane County UW-Extension, Public Health Madison & Dane County, and the La Follette Key Club.



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By planning your meals and storing your foods correctly, you can save money and the Earth.

The average family of four wastes \$1,500 a year in uneaten food.

And think of all the water, time, fuel, and other resources that went into growing, preparing, and shipping the food to your table, only for it to be wasted.

Use the below tools to help you with meal planning:

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We've all been there. You're at the grocery store- the strawberries sure look tempting so you buy them only to have them spoil in the fridge.

According to the USDA, 30 to 40% of of all food in the United States is wasted. The USDA estimates that this works out to 133 billion pounds of food wasted - and think of all the resources and time lost, too.

This is a big problem that has a simple solution.

Make a plan and then follow through.

By using the food you buy (or grow) and storing it correctly to keep it fresh and safe longer, you can cut down on wasting food.

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You've made a plan. You've followed through.

Now, what about the leftovers? Or those bananas that are looking maybe a little brown?

Or, what can you do with other excesses at where you work or perhaps your restaurant?

Embrace your creativity!

Below are ways help you cook creatively to use those leftovers and imperfect foods. Turn those bruised apples into beautiful pies. Turn the vegetable ends and chicken bones into stock.

And you create opportunity for your neighbors in need by donating what's possible.

Here's some resources to help.



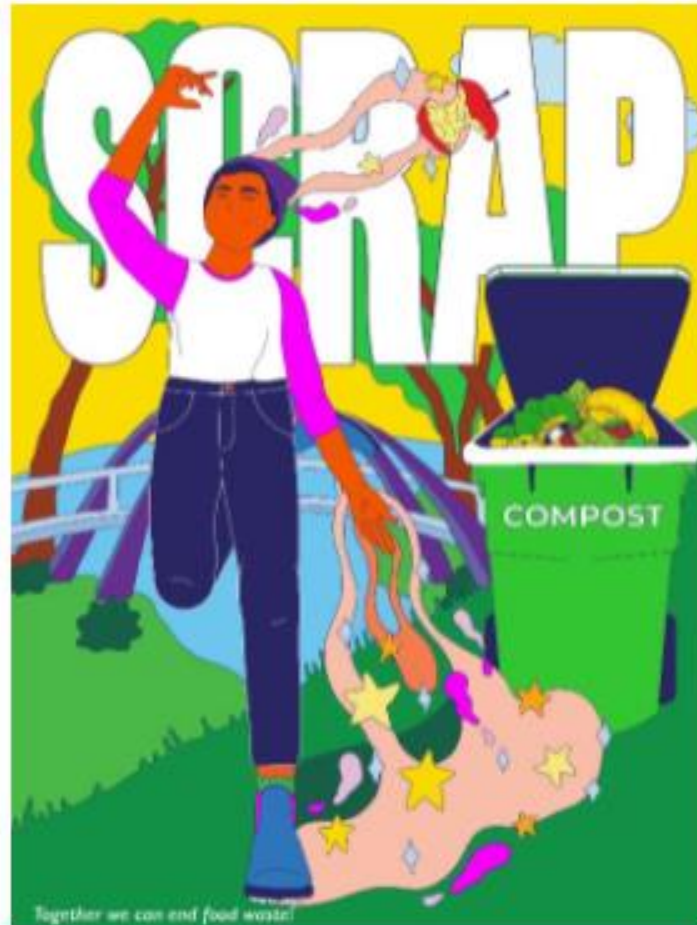
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Food scraps recycling at [Streets Division drop-off sites](#) is available until Saturday, July 17, 2021..

If the drop-off sites cannot meet your food scraps recycling needs, try [backyard composting options](#), if [appropriate](#).

You can also [contact a private vendor](#) to possibly set up collection service.

Below is information regarding what the rules are for using the City of Madison Streets Division's food scraps drop-off program.

# Thank You!!!



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