



Complying with the Commercial Organics Waste Disposal Ban



Who will be affected by the ban?

Businesses and institutions disposing of one ton or more of food waste per week, beginning in Fall 2014

What are my options?

Reduce:

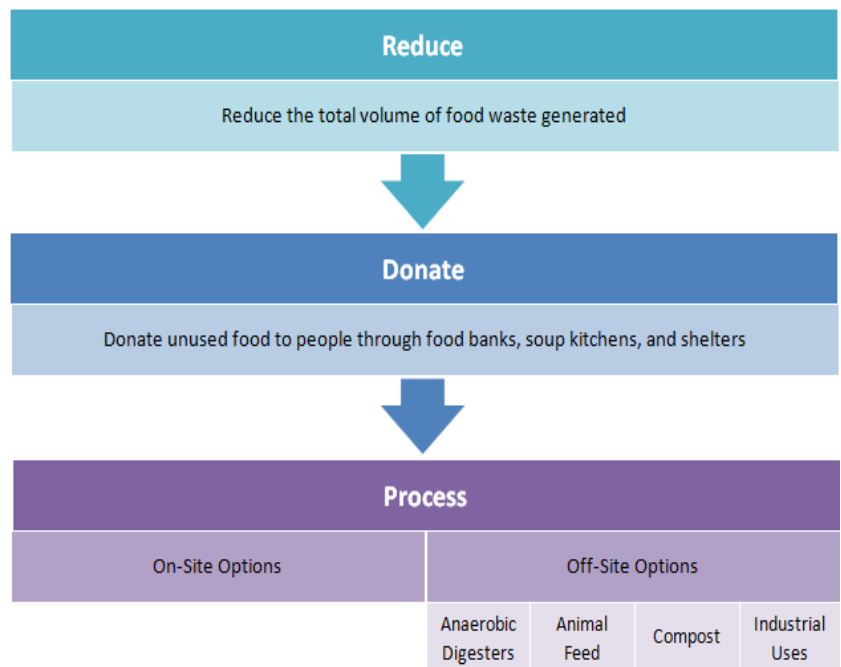
Track where and how food is wasted, **reduce** the number of menu items provide **flexible portioning choices**, **discount** items close to expiration at supermarkets, tailor both the **quantity and timing of food deliveries**, and utilize **proper food storage** techniques.

Donate:

Consider starting a **food donation program** at your place of business. **Good quality surplus food** can be kept **out of the landfill** and put on the plates of those **in need in your community!**

Process:

Invest in technology to reduce or compost food waste **on site** or **contract** with a hauler to transport food waste to an **off-site facility**.



On-site options: These systems require an **initial investment** in technology and ongoing equipment maintenance and operation costs. On-site systems can be a good fit for a facility that has grounds and landscaping where the processed food material can be added to an existing composting operation or where hauler collection routes for food waste are limited. Types of on-site systems include **compost units, dehydrators, pulpers, wastewater-based systems, and anaerobic digesters.**

Off-site options: Off-site options require **contracting** with a **hauler** to transport food materials to an off-site facility. Type of facilities and uses include: **farms for animal feed, compost sites, anaerobic digesters, rendering/biodiesel operations –for fats, oils, and grease**



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CALL OUR HOTLINE: (888)254-5525

Additional Resources:

Reduce:

- For guidance on ways to reduce food waste produced, see *Reducing Food Waste: A How to Guide for Businesses and Institutions* on MassDEP's website.
- For a national perspective on food waste reduction strategies, see the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) report *Wasted: How America Is Losing Up to 40% of Its Food from Farm to Fork to Landfill*.

Donate:

- For a list of food pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens near you, use the Find a Food Pantry search tool (<http://www.findafoodpantry.org>).
- For general donation guidance and case studies in food donation, see the EPA's website (<http://www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/foodwaste/fd-donate.html>).
- For a list of national donation charities and information on federal laws that encourage food donations, see USDA's website.

Process:

- For help finding haulers or facilities that can serve you, go to the RecyclingWorks website at www.recyclingworksma.com and search the "Find a Recycler" database by material (i.e. food waste/compostables). You can also go directly to the food waste service providers listing.
- For more guidance on starting a food waste diversion program see additional RecyclingWorks guidance on food waste and starting a program.

