



# West Coast Climate & Materials Management Forum

September 13, 2023

**Achieving Zero Food Waste: State Policy Toolkit and EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants**

# Zoom Logistics and Technical Orientation

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- For closed captioning of today's discussion, please select the closed captioning icon at the bottom of your screen.
- All participants are in listen-only mode now. Please email [morgan.collins@erg.com](mailto:morgan.collins@erg.com) if you experience any technical difficulties with Zoom.
- Please submit questions for discussion into the Q&A feature.
- Today's session will be recorded and shared at a later date through the Forum website at [www.westcoastclimateforum.com](http://www.westcoastclimateforum.com)



# West Coast Climate Forum Webinar Series Disclaimer

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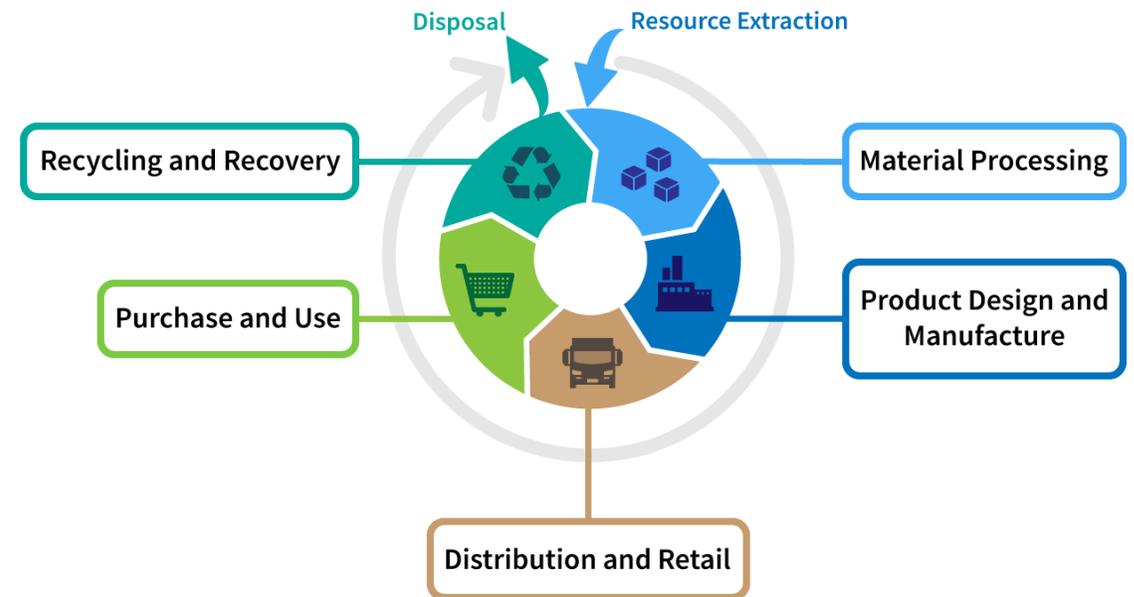
**West Coast Climate**  
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# West Coast Climate & Materials Management Forum

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A collaboration of state, local, and tribal governments with the mission to:

- Develop ways to institutionalize sustainable materials management practices.
- Develop tools to help jurisdictions reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with materials



# Agenda

- ❖ Zero Food Waste Coalition
- ❖ Food waste and climate
- ❖ State Policy Toolkit
- ❖ Food waste in CAPs

# Today's Speakers

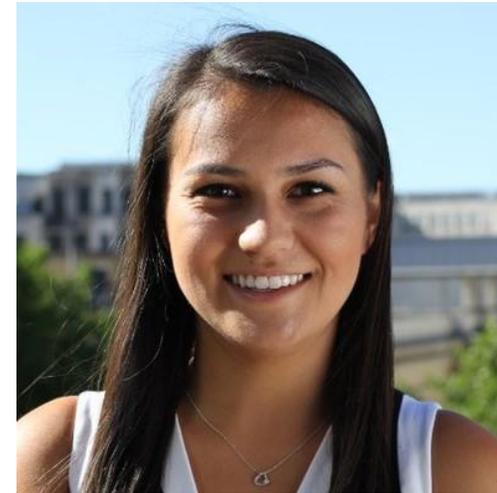
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Harvard University  
Clinical Fellow,  
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**West Coast Climate**  
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# EPA CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANTS

KAT COMPTON, EPA REGION 10 CLIMATE COORDINATOR

ACHIEVING ZERO FOOD WASTE: STATE POLICY TOOLKIT AND EPA'S CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANTS

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

# 40% BY 2030

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) makes historic investments in climate action that are expected to reduce U.S. emissions ~40% by 2030 while supporting disadvantaged communities and the clean energy industrial base.

Six EPA programs account for 98% of \$41.5B total funding:

## Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (\$27B)

Provide capital to greenhouse gas mitigation projects not currently able to access private capital, particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities.

## Reduce Air Pollution at Ports (\$3B)

Award rebates and grants for ports to purchase and install zero-emission technology and develop climate action plans.

## Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (\$5B)

Provide grants at the state, local, and Tribal level to develop plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and implement those plans. At least one grant will go to an eligible entity in every state.

## Methane Emissions Reduction Program (\$1.55B)

Fund grants and technical assistance to accelerate emissions reduction from petroleum and natural gas systems. Also establish a methane waste emissions charge starting at \$900 per ton in 2024 and increasing to \$1,500 per ton by 2026.

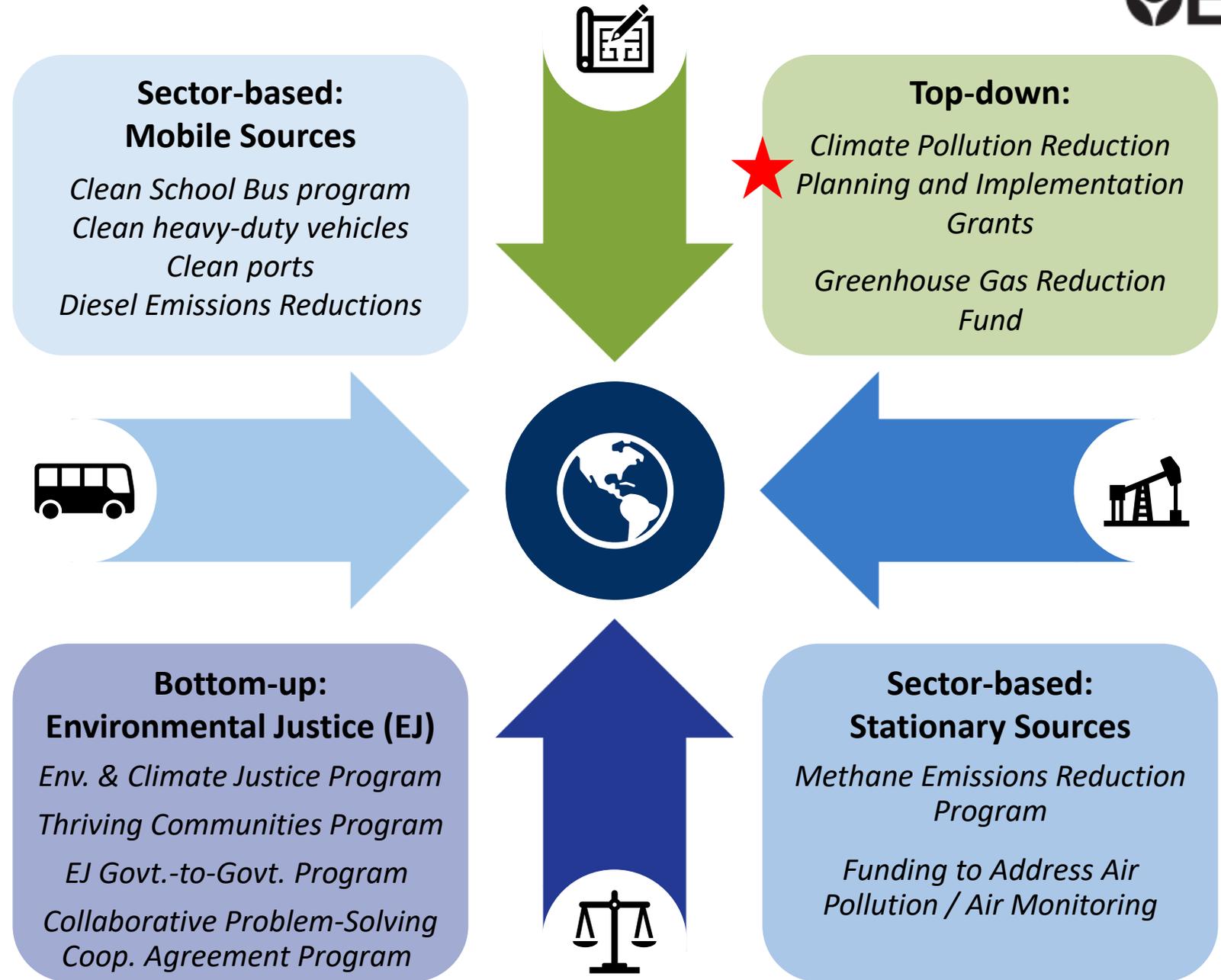
## Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants (\$3B)

Fund community-based nonprofit organizations to support a wide range of climate and environmental justice activities.

## Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (\$1B)

Provide grants, rebates, and contract support to replace heavy duty vehicles with zero emission alternatives. \$400 million is specifically for nonattainment areas.

# TACKLING CLIMATE AND AIR POLLUTION FROM MULTIPLE ANGLES



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AT EPA

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## JUSTICE40

A WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE



▶ ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. This goal will be achieved when everyone enjoys:

- The same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
- Equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.

### Inflation Reduction Act Community Change Grants Program

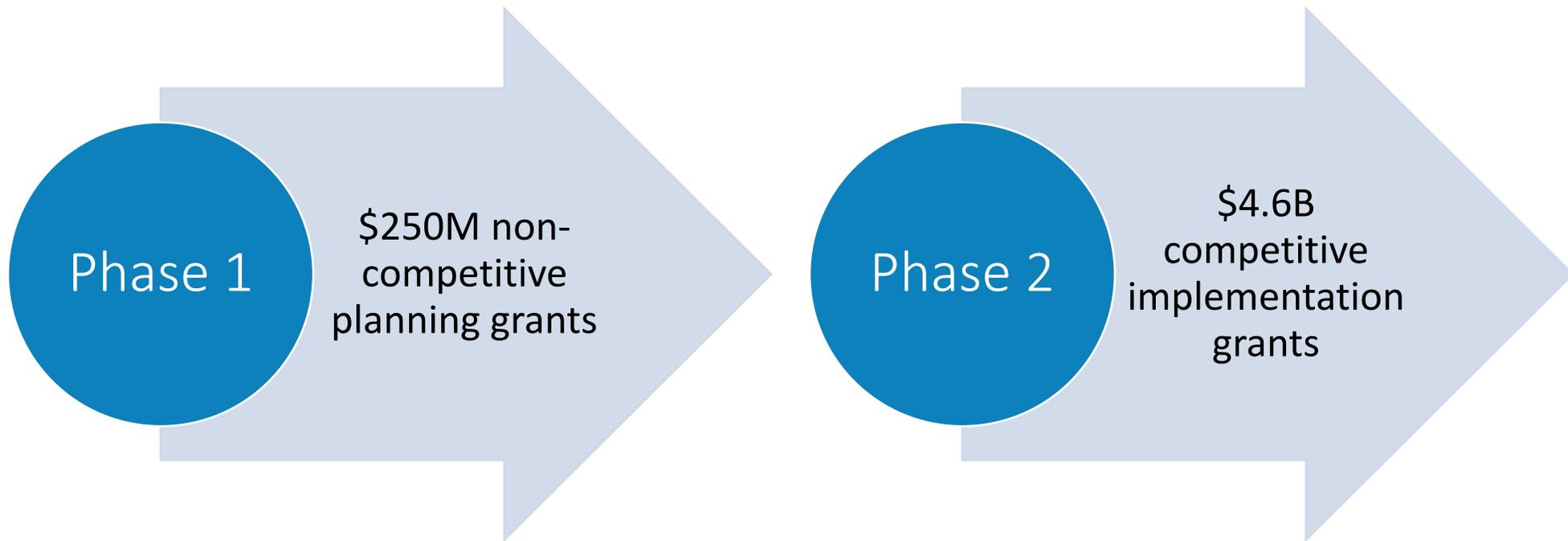
*EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights plans to issue the Community Change Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in early autumn 2023:*

<https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-community-change-grants-program>

# WHAT IS THE GPRG PROGRAM?

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Section 60114 of the Inflation Reduction Act provides an investment of \$5 billion to support efforts by states, municipalities, air pollution control agencies, tribes, and groups thereof to develop and implement strong, local greenhouse gas reduction strategies.



# PHASE 1: CPRG PLANNING GRANTS

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## Updates

Check out the [Investing in America: Climate Action Funding Resource Guide](#) for a list of federal programs to fund activities that reduce greenhouse gases.

List of CPRG planning grant recipients as of September 5, 2023:  [CPRG Planning Grant Award Status \(pdf\)](#) (139.69 KB, September 5, 2023)

- \$3M to States
- \$1M to MSAs
- Awards of varying sizes to tribes and intertribal consortia
  
- Priority Climate Action Plans due March 1, 2024 (April 1, 2024 for tribes/intertribal consortia\*)

\*tribes and territories that want to participate in the general implementation grants competition will still need to meet the March 1 PCAP deadline.

# PHASE 2: CPRG IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

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EPA anticipates announcing final details and issuing notices of funding opportunities for the CPRG implementation grants competitions in ***September 2023***.

- For states and municipalities – Priority Climate Action Plans are due by ***March 1, 2024***. Applications for the general implementation grants competition will ***likely be due on or around April 1, 2024***.

EPA expects to hold two competitions for CPRG implementation grants – a general competition and a competition only for tribes and territories.

These competitions will be open to:

- Entities that received planning grants to develop Priority Climate Action Plans under phase 1 of the CPRG program, ***and***
- Entities that did not directly receive a planning grant but that apply for funds to implement measures included in an applicable PCAP.

The evaluation criteria will prioritize both overall greenhouse gas reductions and the benefits of GHG reduction measures to low-income and disadvantaged communities.

- Implementation grants will fund a wide variety of greenhouse gas reduction measures contained in PCAPs



## Waste and Materials Management

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- [Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grants](#)
- [Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach Grants](#)
- [Embodied Carbon in Construction Materials Grants, Technical Assistance & Labeling Program](#)
- [Regional Sustainable Materials Management Grants](#)
- [Small Business Innovation Research Grants](#)

### U.S. Department of Agriculture

- [Composting and Food Waste Reduction Grants](#) 
- [Solid Waste Management – Rural Development Grants](#) 

### U.S. Department of Energy

- [Consumer Electronics Battery Recycling, Reprocessing, and Battery Collection Grants](#) 
- [Materials, Operation and Recycling of Photovoltaics Grants](#) 
- [Waste-to-Energy Technical Assistance for Local Governments](#) 

### U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- [Community Development Block Grants](#) 
- [Climate resilience of affordable housing loans and grants](#) 

# INVESTING IN AMERICA: CLIMATE ACTION FUNDING RESOURCE GUIDE

<https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/investing-america-climate-action-funding-resource-guide>

# EPA RESOURCES

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- [Example Local Government Climate Action Plans that Address Materials Management and Waste](#)
- [Resources, Waste and Climate Change Webpage](#)
- [Excess Food Opportunities Map](#)
- Two Social Marketing Toolkits for Communities:
  - [Composting Food Scraps in Your Community: A Social Marketing Toolkit](#)
  - [Preventing Wasted Food in Your Community: A Social Marketing Toolkit](#)
- [From Farm to Kitchen: The Environmental Impacts of U.S. Food Waste](#)
- [Waste Reduction Model \(WARM\)](#)
- [Sustainable Management of Food webpage](#)



# THRIVING COMMUNITIES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS



## **Expected to be operational by late summer '23:**

- 16 TCTACs nationally
- Competitions open for Regions 1 and 8

## **Who can receive services from centers:**

- All community stakeholders, including underserved communities
- Community residents
- Nonprofit organizations
- Grassroots organizations
- Local and State government entities
- Tribal government entities

# QUESTIONS?

Kat Compton: [compton.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:compton.kathleen@epa.gov)

# Food Waste & Climate Action Plans

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ZERO FOOD WASTE COALITION





## The ZFWC:

- **Advocates** for policies that address the climate crisis, improve equity, and increase access to healthy food by reducing food waste and advancing food recovery efforts
- Offers a central source of **information, resources, and toolkits** that enable communities, organizations, and governments to reduce food waste
- **Increases the visibility** and diversity of organizations and leaders working to reduce waste and recover food across the country

**Membership:** nonprofit organizations, food businesses, local governments

Interested in joining or learning more?

- Email [info@zerofoodwastecoalition.org](mailto:info@zerofoodwastecoalition.org)
- Visit [www.zerofoodwastecoalition.org](http://www.zerofoodwastecoalition.org)



# Food Waste and Climate

up to **40%**  
of all food goes  
uneaten



## Uneaten Food Consumes:



6%  
of U.S. GHG  
Emissions



22%  
of all  
Fresh Water Use



16%  
of U.S.  
Cropland Use  
(EPA Estimate)



24%  
of Landfill Inputs  
(EPA Estimate)

Source: ReFED April/May 2023

# REDUCING FOOD WASTE

# RANKS #1\*

in Project Drawdown's list of the TOP 100 most impactful interventions

## TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE



Reduced Food Waste

4%  
of U.S. GHG  
Emissions

Source: ReFED

Source: Project Drawdown Analysis, [www.drawdown.org](http://www.drawdown.org)

\*#1 most impactful solution in scenario 1 (2 degrees C temp rise by 2100), and #4 in scenario 2 (1.5 degrees C temp rise by 2100)



# Food Waste and Climate Action Plans

# Toolkit Policies



## Building & Broadening Organic Waste Bans

- Organic Waste Bans
- Food Donation Requirements
- Mandatory Reporting Laws
- Disposal Surcharge Fees



## Opportunities to Promote Food Donation

- Liability Protections
- Tax Incentives
- Food Safety Guidance



## Supporting Organic Waste Processing Infrastructure

- Permitting & Zoning for Composting & AD Facilities
- Recycling Food Scraps into Animal Feed



## Developing End Markets for Compost

- Compost Procurement
- Incentivize Compost Application



## Preventing Food Waste Upstream

- Date Labeling



## Other Governmental Actions

- Food Waste Reduction in K-12 Schools
- Climate & Solid Waste Plans
- Government Support for Food Waste Reduction

# Organic Waste Bans & Food Donation Requirements

- 🍏 Ban food waste in landfills and/or require the donation of wholesome, surplus food with a tiered and phased-in approach
- 🍏 Provide grants for food waste reduction efforts
- 🍏 Perform capacity planning and provide grants for food recovery organizations
- 🍏 Monitor/track outcomes



## Organic Waste Bans: Model Legislation

### Section 2. Definitions

- a. "Department" means *[Define this as needed for your state and include the state agency responsible for the organic waste ban in your state]*.
- b. "Food scraps," for purposes of this section, means inedible food, trimmings from the preparation of food, surplus food that is not donated, and food processing waste. "Food scraps" does not include used cooking oil, yellow grease, or any food that is subject to a recall or seizure due to the presence of pathogens.
- c. "Surplus food," for the purpose of this section, means food that is not sold or used by a commercial food generator and is still safe to be consumed but would otherwise be disposed of by the generator. Surplus food shall not include unpackaged fresh meat, fish or poultry; food damaged by pests, mold, bacteria or other contamination; or food subject to governmental or producer recall due to food safety.
- d. "Person" means any individual, partnership, company, corporation, association, unincorporated association, joint venture, trust, state agency or department, federal agency, or any other legal or commercial entity.
- e. "Source separated" or "source separation" means the separation of organic materials from non-organic materials at the point of generation.

### Section 3. Priority Uses

- a. It is the policy of the state that surplus food and food scraps collected under the requirements of this chapter shall be managed according to the following order of priority uses:
  - i. Reduction of the amount generated at the source;
  - ii. Diversion for food consumption by humans;
  - iii. Diversion for agricultural use, including consumption by animals; and
  - iv. Composting and anaerobic digestion.

### Section 4. Food Waste Recycling Requirement

A person who produces more than an amount identified under subsection (c) of this section in combined surplus food and food scraps shall:

- a. Separate surplus food and food scraps from other solid waste, provided that a de minimis amount of such food may be disposed of in solid waste when a person has established a program to separate surplus food and food scraps and the program includes a component for the education of program users regarding the need to separate such food; and
- b. Arrange for the transfer of surplus food or food scraps to location(s) that manage surplus food or food scraps in a manner consistent with the priority uses established under section 3(a)(i)-(iv) or manage food scraps on site.\*

*\*While some state legislation (e.g., CT and RI) includes distance-based exemptions for food scraps generators that are not located within a given distance of an authorized composting or anaerobic digestion facility, we do not advise including such a provision.*

- c. The following persons shall be subject to the requirements of subsections (a)-(b) of this section *[You will need to determine what threshold you want to use and end with, as well as the cadence to reach that threshold\*]:*
  - i. Beginning [2 years from enactment], a person whose acts or processes produce more than 104 tons per year of combined surplus food and food scraps;
  - ii. Beginning [3 years from enactment], a person whose acts or processes produce more than 52 tons per year of combined surplus food and food scraps;
  - iii. Beginning [4 years from enactment], a person whose acts or processes produce more than 26 tons per year of combined surplus food and food scraps;
  - iv. Beginning [5 years from enactment], a person whose acts or processes produce more than 18 tons per year of combined surplus food and food scraps; and
  - v. Beginning [8 years from enactment], any person who generates any amount of combined surplus food and food scraps.

# Permitting and Zoning for Composting/ AD Facilities & Compost Procurement Best Practices

- 🍏 Create separate regulatory pathways for food scraps, exempting small-scale and on-site facilities from permitting requirements
- 🍏 Use purchasing power to procure compost, preferencing compost derived from food scraps
- 🍏 Use an established standard for compost quality and provide educational materials to agencies and departments
- 🍏 Require recordkeeping and reporting



# Food Waste in K-12 Schools

- 🍏 Specify which schools foods can be donated and how
- 🍏 Mandate share tables in K-12 Schools
- 🍏 Donate surplus food and compost food scraps
- 🍏 Fund education programming and equipment updates
- 🍏 Require and provide funding for food waste audits

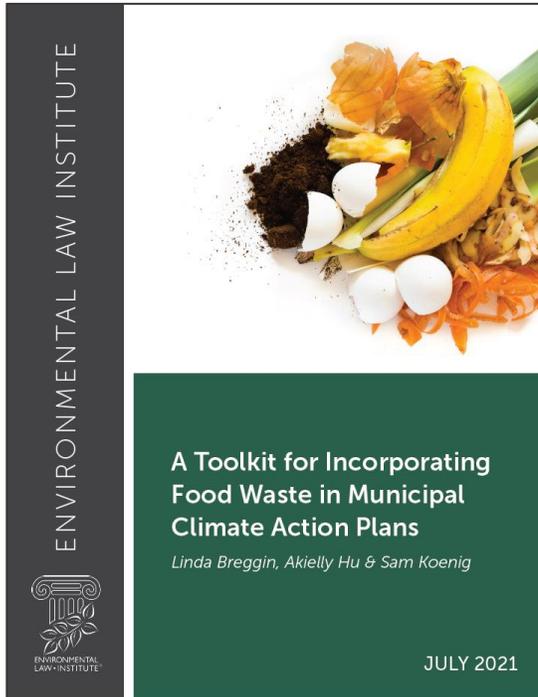


# Government Support for Food Waste Reduction

- 🍏 Create grants for infrastructure and costs associated with food recovery
- 🍏 Create grants for development costs associated with recycling and upcycling foods
- 🍏 Provide free technical assistance around food waste
- 🍏 Recognize businesses for their efforts
- 🍏 Raise awareness via campaigns



# Additional Resources



ELI Toolkit

ReFED Insights Engine

EPA WARM

## Contact Information:

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