Food Waste
Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional

Jennifer Trent
Iowa Waste Reduction Center
University of Northern Iowa

The Iowa Waste Reduction Center and the University of Northern Iowa are equal opportunity providers and employers.
Total yearly food waste in the U.S. = 39.7 million tons

Statistic from BSR Food Waste Study Prepared for GMA/FMI
Food Waste Disposal by Industry

Total Food Waste Disposed = 39.7 million tons

- Residents = 44%
- Full Service Restaurants = 20%
- Quick Service Restaurants = 13%
- Grocery Stores = 11%
- Institutions = 10%
- Industries = 2%

Statistic from BSR Food Waste Study Prepared for GMA/FMI
Institutional Food Waste Estimates

Hospitals dispose an estimated 590,000 tons per year

Universities dispose an estimated 800,000 tons per year

K-12 schools dispose an estimated 1,500,000 tons per year

Prisons dispose an estimated 300,000 tons per year

Statistic from BSR Food Waste Study Prepared for GMA/FMI
Prevent and Reduce Food Waste

Donate – donating surplus edible food helps feed hungry people but is also protected from liability through the Bill Emerson Act.

Compost – composting food waste reduces greenhouse gas emissions as well as provides soil with an amendment that retains moisture, increases nutrients, and suppresses plant disease.

Feed Animals – create a partnership with a local farmer to feed kitchen prep waste to livestock.
Conduct a Waste Audit

Knowing how much food waste you generate:
• Can help set food waste reduction goals
• Can help track progress in reducing and preventing food waste
• Can help calculate costs associated with food waste disposal
The Iowa Waste Reduction Center can help!

- If you are located in the following cities:
  Chariton  Bloomfield
  Lamoni  Postville

- We conduct free waste audits to accurately measure your food waste.

- We will send you a detailed report with results from your waste audit AND strategies that will help prevent and reduce food waste.

Please contact Jennifer Trent at the Iowa Waste Reduction Center at the University of Northern Iowa.

Phone: 319-273-6584  Email: Jennifer.trent@uni.edu
For more information about food waste, please visit our website at:

https://iwrc.uni.edu/food-waste

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