

Wisconsin Council on Recycling
Update: Wisconsin's Initiative for Food Waste Management

December 3, 2024

DNR “Blueprint for DNR Climate Action”

“Reduce per-capita food waste disposed of in Wisconsin landfills by 50% by 2030, compared to 2020 levels.”



UPDATES

Statewide Food Waste Management Evaluation Plan

Goal: Create plan to inform policy decisions on food waste reduction and recycling methods and goals. Analyze where additional investment, technical assistance and education may be needed.

HDR & DNR in data gathering mode:

- October 22 - Surveys sent to food waste generators, food reuse outlets, transporters & food waste processors
- Survey follow-up continues
- Next up – summarizing survey responses in technical memos

Surveys

- **Food Waste (FW) Generators**

- Sources, amount and reasons why FW is generated by various sectors
- Barriers to FW prevention and diversion
- How can prevention & diversion be supported by DNR

- **Food Donation Outlets**

- Methods and types of accepted food donations (i.e. farms, restaurants, grocery stores, etc.)
- Barriers to accepting more food donations
- Methods & challenges managing FW at the outlet
- How can DNR support their FW efforts

Surveys

- **Transporters, Composters, Animal Feed, Landspread, AD, WWTP-AD**
 - Types of feedstock accepted
 - Current & potential processing capacity
 - Markets for processed FW
 - Barriers to accepting FW
 - How can DNR support their FW efforts

Food Waste Prevention & Reduction Holiday Outreach

- Press Release & Media Briefing: “Reduce, Reuse And Recycle Waste This Holiday Season”
- DNR Webpage: [Winter holiday reduce waste & recycle](#)
- Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine Winter 2024
 - DNR Office of Communications

Licensed Food Scrap Processing

- Facilities composting food scraps = 18
- Facilities composting food processing waste = 6
- Food Waste Depackaging Facilities

Licensed

- Eden - 275 T/day expected

Approved – Not Licensed Yet

- Waupaca – 250 T/day
- River Falls – 275 T/day

Proposed

- Cambridge – 275 T/day

Food Waste Depackaging

- **Waste Types Include:**

- Packaged waste
- Process water and byproducts
- Fats, oils, and grease
- Brewery, distillery, and winery waste
- Discarded front- and back-of-house food scraps and liquids

- **Final Disposition**

- Codigested with manure
- Converted to RNG fuel

Contact – questions & suggestions

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