



DONATE FOOD

It's easy!

Guide to donating prepared and perishable food

During an economic time that leaves more individuals at risk of hunger, people are making difficult choices. Of those served by Food Lifeline, **42% say they've had to choose between paying for food and paying their rent or mortgage.** Much of the food thrown away by local restaurants, hospitals, grocers, and other businesses is edible and can be used to help feed people in local communities.

WHY DONATE?

- Donations of surplus food are needed now more than ever.
- Reduce garbage costs associated with throwing away edible food.
- Food donations may be tax deductible.
- Reduce your company's environmental impact by keeping food out of landfills. Recent data shows that businesses in Seattle disposed of more than 56,000 tons of food waste.
- Show customers you care about your community while increasing employee pride.

IT'S SAFE

State and federal Good Samaritan laws protect you from liability when donating food you believe is safe and edible.

Food banks and hot meal programs receiving food donations are required by law to follow the Washington State Health Department Food Code.

WHAT FOOD CAN I DONATE?

- Unserved prepared entrées, side dishes and desserts
- Unopened containers of food, beverages, condiments, sauces and spices
- The following unused products:
 - Fresh produce
 - Dairy products
 - Fresh chilled or frozen meat
 - Non-food items

HOW DO I START?

To learn more about food donation or arrange for an agency to pick up surplus food, contact Seattle's Table at Food Lifeline: 206-545-6600 ext. 3635 or www.seattletable.org.

IF YOU HAVE FOOD THAT CANNOT BE EATEN...

Inedible food can be composted, often for less than garbage disposal costs. Contact these companies for rates and to establish food collection services: Allied Waste (206) 332-7777, Cedar Grove Composting (877) 994-4466, CleanScapes (206) 859-6700.

A partnership between:

FOOD 
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City of Seattle
Seattle Public Utilities



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TTY/TDD (206) 233-7241. Accommodations for people with disabilities provided on request.