

# Food Donation

For Contra Costa County Businesses



## Help Your Business Help the Hungry

### Donating Your Food is Easy!

Every year, Contra Costa grocery stores, restaurants, and other food generating businesses discard tons of edible food. Businesses can now redirect that food to the plates of hungry families.

Food donation is a safe, simple practice with meaningful benefits for local businesses and our community—helping reduce food waste while helping feed our county's food insecure residents.

Working with Food Recovery Organizations, businesses can easily donate food to local non-profit organizations.



## Why Donate food?

- Support your community
- Reduce waste
- Save money

## It's the Law!



California state law Senate Bill (SB) 1383 and RecycleSmart Ordinance 21-I mandates that by 2025 at least 20% of the edible food that is currently disposed must be recovered and donated for human consumption.

### Who has to comply:

- **January 1, 2022:** Tier One Generators (supermarkets, grocery stores, etc.)
- **January 1, 2024:** Tier Two Generators (large restaurants, hotels, Local Education Agencies, etc.)

Starting January 1, 2024, penalties can be issued for non-compliance.



[RecycleSmart.org](https://www.RecycleSmart.org)



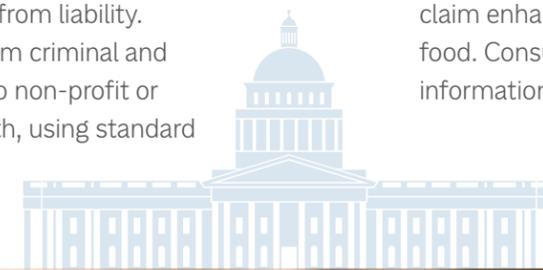
**Food donation doesn't have to occur daily, but having a food recovery partner lined up will make food donation convenient and easy when a food donation opportunity comes along.**

## Legal Protections

California's Good Samaritan Donation Act (AB 1219) helps protect food donors from liability. Businesses are legally protected from criminal and civil liability when food is donated to non-profit or charitable organizations in good faith, using standard safe food handling procedures.

## Enhanced Tax Savings

The federal tax code allows businesses to claim enhanced deductions on donated food. Consult a tax professional for more information.



### Start Donating Food Today!

It's safe, simple and easy.

- 1** Contact a local Food Recovery Organization. Visit [RecycleSmart.org/FoodGenerators](https://RecycleSmart.org/FoodGenerators) or use the QR code to download a list of local Food Recovery Organizations.
- 2** Enter into a food donation agreement with a Food Recovery Organization.
- 3** Work with the Food Recovery Organization to create a donation schedule that suits your needs.
- 4** The Food Recovery Organization will safely deliver your food to people who need it most.



### Spotlight On: White Pony Express

White Pony Express provides free, as-needed food rescue services for Contra Costa County. White Pony Express can dependably pick up and safely distribute surplus fresh and prepared food within 24 hours, supporting our highest-need neighbors: isolated seniors, students and their families, veterans and the unhoused.



## SB 1383 Requirements

What are SB 1383 Tier 1 & 2 Commercial Food Generators responsible for? Some of the requirements include:

- Enter into a contract with a Food Recovery Organization to support the collection of edible food.
- Recover the maximum amount of edible food possible.
- Keep records on the following: all contracts and written agreements; contact information for all Food Recovery Organizations that collect edible food; the types of food donated, frequency of collection, and quantity (measured in pounds per month).
- Do not intentionally spoil edible food that can be recovered.
- Allow RecycleSmart and Contra Costa Health Services to access the premises and review records.

For a full description of the requirements, visit [RecycleSmart.org/FoodGenerators](https://RecycleSmart.org/FoodGenerators).

## Acceptable Food Donation



Shelf-stable items (canned goods, etc.)



Produce (fruits and vegetables)



Meat, poultry, and fish/deli goods\*



Dairy goods\*



Prepared food\*



Baked goods



Frozen food



Beverages

\*Ensure food is maintained at 41°F or below.



## Statewide Food Donation Mandates Began January 1, 2022

### Is your business ready?



For more information, contact RecycleSmart  
[RecycleSmart.org/FoodGenerators](https://RecycleSmart.org/FoodGenerators)  
[authority@recyclesmart.org](mailto:authority@recyclesmart.org)



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