Food Waste: A Strategic Regional Conversation

AGENDA

8:00  Registration, Coffee, and Networking

8:45  Welcoming Remarks
Kristin Weiss, Executive Director, Green Umbrella
James Buchanan, Director, The Brueggeman Center for Dialogue, Xavier University

9:00  KEYNOTE ADDRESS: US Food Waste Reduction Goals: Challenges and Solution Opportunities
Susan Mooney, Chief of Municipal and Industrial Materials, US EPA Region 5

9:45  Draft Regional Food Waste Plan
Scott Burns, Global Asset Recovery Programs and Xavier University

10:05 Panel Discussion on Food Waste Solutions
Edward Devoid, Senior Director of Dining for Xavier University, Chartwell’s
Regina Northouse, Executive Director, Food Recovery Network
Karen Luken, Sustainable Materials Management Specialist, SCS Engineers

10:35 Q&A

10:50 Break

11:00 Rescue, Transform, and Share
Suzy DeYoung, Head Chef, La Soupe

11:10 Facilitated Table Discussions

12:30 Lunch and Next Steps

1:30 Deeper Dive Breakout Sessions – Please see the back for full descriptions
Education Campaign to Reduce Food Waste
Organics Recycling
Recovery Infrastructure and Logistics

2:30 Adjourn

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DEEPER DIVE BREAKOUT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Education Campaign to Reduce Food Waste
Prevention of wasted food is the ultimate goal. This deeper dive is for those interested in:
- Working on increasing awareness of the issue, educating and creating new norms
- Leveraging existing infrastructures, resources, and expertise to craft best practices to reduce food loss in all areas from farm to fork, i.e., gleaning, off-spec promotion, meal-planning, plate-sizing, proper storage, waste measurement, and standardizing food labeling
- The end goal is to build a coalition to grow the messaging exponentially

Recovery Infrastructure and Logistics
How do we expand food network capability and simplify logistics and understanding of donating wasted food? Participants will discuss a range of approaches to support food recovery and distribution such as the following:
- Improve existing infrastructure and logistics networks
- Expand/integrate network of businesses, farmers, institutions and residents
- Improved tools to educate and simplify donations process (website, apps)
- Discuss laws and policies both existing and needed for ease of donation

Organics Recycling
Food is now the single largest contributor to landfills. Developing an effective infrastructure that can divert food waste from landfills will be critical to meeting the national food waste reduction goals. We will discuss the following:
- How can we create viable aerobic and anaerobic solutions that address the needs of residential, institutional and commercial sectors at different scales?
- How can we ensure these solutions effectively foster diversion while preventing contamination and nuisance issues?
- What barriers exist (legal, infrastructural, logistical)? Who should lead on regional solutions (private, public or private-public partnership)? What markets exist for finished compost, digestate and biogas?