Food Waste Reduction

DECISION TREE FOR BUSINESSES

Use this decision tree to help determine feasible and effective food waste reduction practices for your business. Refer to Get Food Smart TN (GFSTN) for additional resources and technical assistance.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED DIVERTING FOOD WASTE AT YOUR BUSINESS?

Y

N

Does your business generate wasted food that is still edible?

Y

N

Conduct a waste audit to determine how much of your waste could be diverted through composting. This will help you consider which diversion option is the best fit for your business.

DO YOU HAVE A COMMERCIAL COMPOST SERVICE PROVIDER IN YOUR AREA?

Y

N

DO YOU KNOW WHAT VOLUME OF YOUR WASTE IS COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS?

N

Y

CAN YOU BUDGET FOR THE ADDITIONAL COMPOST SERVICES? REMEMBER THAT OFTEN WASTE DISPOSAL FEES WILL SIGNIFICANTLY DECREASE DUE TO SMALLER VOLUMES AND/OR FEWER PICKUPS NEEDED, AND THESE FUNDS CAN BE REALLOCATED TO COMPOST SERVICES.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN OR CAPABLE OF COMPOSTING ON SITE?

N

Y

Great! The first steps include choosing a location for your compost pile and training staff on new practices. Use our Composting Brochure to get started!

What’s Next?
1. Reach out to your local service provider for an estimate.
2. Create an organics collection program for your office or business.
3. Train staff on new food waste reduction practices.
4. Begin collecting food waste for composting and diverting it from landfills!

Great! Visit GFSTN for more information on food donor liability protections, locating a donation center, technical assistance, and next steps!

Click HERE to access additional food waste reduction resources for restaurants interested in composting food waste.