

Managing Food Waste - Materials Management Plans This template is intended to support counties, cities, villages, and townships (CVTs) in developing a plan to manage food waste as part of the required materials management plans (MMP). The template is broken into the following tabs:

1) County - This tab has the template for Counties to use to create their food waste management plans for the MMP. This should be used to support MMP goals related to food waste and create an action plan to achieve those goals.

2) CVTs - This tab has a template for cities, villages, and townships to use to create their food waste management plans. Reaching the County's MMP goals will require CVTs to develop and implement food waste reduction strategies, therefore, this template supports implementation of the County's goals. The County should provide this template to its CVTs to support them in considering how they can contribute to the County's food waste reduction goals.

The template is intended to walk municipalities through the process of creating a food waste management plan. The first section, determining baseline waste and costs, is a critical focus area to complete so that tracking and measuring can be done. The strategies in the remaining focus areas can be picked and chosen from, however, it will likely be very difficult to reach the County's goal for food waste reduction if some sort of diversion program is not in place. Counties should encourage CVTs to create their own food waste reduction plans from the MMPs and commit to specific actions that will support the County's goals. Which actions to take should be considered using the information in columns B (description), C (cost), and I (resources) as well as the resources available in the community and compatibility between the strategy and community character, values, and experience. Strategies highlighted in **green** are those that are easiest to implement while also being effective in reducing food waste.

Once strategies have been identified, more specific objectives (targets, goals) for the strategy should be noted (Column D), along with a timeline for completion (Column E). Determining how progress on the strategy will be measured should also be noted (column F) and who's responsible for implementing the strategy and measuring/reporting on it. The "Data Tracker" tab of this template provides an outline of how a more detailed action plan could be structured.

If you have any questions, suggestions for this template, or general food waste inquiries, please contact Make Food Not Waste at info@makefoodnotwaste.org.

Increase capacity of food rescue organizations and food pantries	<p>Work with food rescue organizations and pantries to apply for funding for operations and capacity building \$5</p> <p>Support opportunities and spaces to upcycle food \$588</p>																											
Decrease food waste in schools	<p>Encourage schools to commit to reducing food waste \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to incorporate food waste reduction into curriculum \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to offer food scrap collection \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to implement share tables \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to participate in offer a serve \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to perform a resource assessment of cooking equipment, kitchen space, staff skills, etc. \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to conduct a food waste audit \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to conduct food preference surveys \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to track food waste in their school wellness portal \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to donate leftover food \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to participate in 10 Cents a Meal \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to do as much scratch cooking as possible \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to adopt county colorshape/prague scheme for waste management \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to have student and/or teacher/parent champions (Green Team) \$</p> <p>Encourage schools to submit action items to Michigan Green Schools certification \$</p>									<p>WWF - Offer a serve, Share tables, composting</p> <p>Water pricing</p> <p>State Tables for Schools guidance from State of Michigan</p> <p>Food Service Reporting Checklist</p> <p>Guide to Conducting Food Waste Audits - A Resource for Schools</p> <p>Food Waste Audit for Schools - Sustainable New Jersey</p>																		
Increase food scrap processing	<p>Initiate the development of additional composting and AD sites, if needed \$88</p> <p>Create a workforce development program in circular waste management \$88</p>									<p>Michigan food solutions #MFSol</p> <p>EMU - Food systems, #MFC - Toolkit for Tracking Food Waste in Schools - See Strategy 20</p>																		
Engage the Community	<p>Promote the food waste initiative through community communications such as newsletters, social media, and the press \$</p> <p>Identify, train, and promote local champions \$</p> <p>Create advisory committees provide feedback on how food waste initiatives are going for businesses and residents \$</p> <p>Conduct a public education campaign related to prevention and composting \$5-\$88</p> <p>Create ways for people to make a public commitment to address food waste such as yard signs, tags, and door signs, online pledges, etc. \$8</p> <p>Digitalize events, newsletters, and social media streams to encourage participation among households, businesses, schools, and community groups \$8</p>									<p>Link to MFWW forthcoming</p>																		
Increase partnerships and regional collaboration	<p>Provide pass through funding to local businesses, nonprofits and community organizations to support efforts \$-88</p> <p>Explore joint compost facility infrastructure with neighboring communities to reduce costs \$</p>									<p>Central District Database</p>																		
Ensure food waste management services are available to all communities within the County	<p>Provide targeted outreach and financial assistance for residents and food pantries who may face barriers to participation \$-88</p>																											
Provide for financial sustainability of food waste management	<p>Apply for State and federal grants open to government entities on behalf of groups based in the Community \$-88</p>																											
Support innovative technologies	<p>Consider the adoption of or pilots to test technological approaches including apps and digital marketplaces, composting and aerobic digestion machines, upcycling into value-added food or non-food products, smart bins, and robotic food sorting/transporting systems \$-88</p>									<p>Top Food To Go, FirstFood, MFCP aerobic digestion, BioBelly, Upcycled Apps, TerraNova Systems, MFC, Orange Spools, Blue Michigan Materials Marketplace</p>																		
Measure results	<p>Conduct a waste characterization study \$8</p>									<p>Guide to Methods (NRDC)</p>																		

Example					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Strategy - Residential Food Waste Mangement					
Goal: 10% reduction via prevention and a 50% participation in food scrap collection					
Action Steps	Collect baseline data to understand existing prevention and diversion habits	Implement and promote food scrap collection program	Monitor/evaluate food scrap collection program success; measure participation rate and adjust promotional methods/training/location of bins/etc. to increase participation as need to reach goal	Monitor/evaluate food scrap collection program success; measure participation rate and adjust promotional methods/training/location of bins/etc. to increase participation as need to reach goal	Monitor/evaluate food scrap collection program success; measure participation rate and adjust promotional methods/training/location of bins/etc. to increase participation as need to reach goal
Measurement	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste	Implementation and promotion of food scrap collection program	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste	Resident survey with questions about current practices for managing food waste
Tracking Data	Survey developed and launched; received 503 responses that indicate that....	Whether or not the food scrap collection was implemented, how many households it services, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.	Number of households served with food scrap collection program, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.	Number of households served with food scrap collection program, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.	Number of households served with food scrap collection program, number of people participating, pounds of food scraps collected, etc.
Strategy -					
Goal:					
Action Steps					
Measurement					
Tracking Data					
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