

In the United States 40% of food produced goes uneaten- that is 62.5 million tons of wasted food every year. Meanwhile, there were 42.2 million people, including 13.1 million children, who did not have enough food to lead a healthy, active lifestyle in 2015. By donating surplus wholesome food instead of throwing it in the trash you can feed hungry people, save space in local landfills, and prevent the emission of harmful greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

See the **Safe Surplus Food Donation Toolkit** here <u>smchealth.org/fooddonation</u> for more information and tools.

QUESTIONS?- Contact (650) 372-6200 San Mateo County Environmental Health Services, 2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Suite #100 San Mateo, CA 94403



1. YOU CAN DONATE

- You're protected by the Federal Good Samaritan Law and CA Health and Safety Code
- It's OK with the Health Department



2. FIGURE OUT WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROWING AWAY

 Weigh and track your surplus food: https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-managementfood/food-recovery-challenge-frc

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3. PARTNER WITH A LOCAL NON-PROFIT

- Talk with them in advance
- Determine the logistics
- START DONATING!





COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

HEALTH SYSTEM



4. SAFELY PACKAGE FOOD

• Package food in appropriate food safe containers, free of contamination



5. MAINTAIN FOOD AT PROPER TEMPERATURES

- Cool foods at 41°F or below
- Frozen foods at 32°F or below
- Hot foods at 135° or higher & Process Immediately

**Whole produce, canned goods, and dry foods have no time and temperature controls

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6. TRACK DONATED ITEMS

- Fill out the Food Donation Delivery Form
- Make sure your nonprofit partner fills out and signs their sections as well



7. TRANSPORT DONATED FOOD SAFELY

- Use refrigerated transport when available
- Use thermal blankets for hot food
- CalCode only allows for 30 min of transportation without temperature control



8. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

- Contact your local Environmental Health Department with any concerns: (650) 372-6200
 San Mateo County Environmental Health Services
 2000 Alameda de las Pulgas, Suite #100 San Mateo, CA 94403
- Review the Safe Surplus Food Donation Toolkit: smchealth.org/fooddonation





