

About the DC Food Recovery Working Group

In 2016, representatives of over 40 different DC nonprofits, for-profits, government agencies, and food banks, all working on food recovery in the greater DC area, formed the DC Food Recovery Working Group. Together, they promote the numerous efforts to reduce food waste and feed more people in the region, while coordinating citywide food recovery initiatives. In addition to providing a clearinghouse of food recovery information and resources on its website (dcfoodrecovery.org), the Working Group meets monthly to share resources and news and to collaborate on a variety of initiatives. Members are all volunteers operating separately from any private or public entity, but they come from organizations including:

[Arlington Food Assistance Center \(AFAC\)](#)

Community-based non-profit that provides supplemental groceries to our Arlington, VA neighbors in need.

[Compost Cab](#)

Compost Cab deploys a clean, convenient, and cost-effective pick-up service for your organics. Then we deliver these materials to a nearby not-for-profit urban farm, where they're transformed into the fertile soil needed to grow good, nutritious food for the local community. Everybody wins.

[DC Central Kitchen](#)

America's leader in reducing hunger with recycled food, training unemployed adults for culinary careers, serving healthy school meals, and rebuilding urban food systems through social enterprise.

[DC Department of General Services \(DGS\)](#)

Under the DC Healthy Schools Act of 2010, DGS is responsible for a variety of activities designed to ensure that schools are healthy, safe places to learn. These include programs on recycling and composting, energy reduction, drinking water testing, indoor air quality, and integrated pest management.

[DC Department of Parks and Recreation \(DPR\) – Urban Gardens Division](#)

Works with communities across the District to establish outdoor gardens; offer workshops, classes and programs that enhance, enrich and expose all participants who are interested in gardening; and introduce new and innovative gardening ideas and best practices.

[EatOrToss.com](#)

Is it OK to eat? This website features images of food items that might give some people pause (i.e. separated yogurt, a russeted apple, a really brown banana). Articles explain the science behind the items, in most cases concluding that they're perfectly fine to eat. The goal is more peace of mind and less wasted food.

[EPA – Sustainable Management of Food](#)

This Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) focuses on nation-wide food recovery initiatives.

[Food Recovery Network](#)

National nonprofit organization that unites and supports college students to fight food waste and hunger by recovering surplus food from their campuses and local restaurants that would otherwise go to waste and donating it to hungry Americans.

[Food Rescue US](#)

Volunteers use the app to self-schedule food runs from restaurants, grocers, caterers and other food service organizations who have food destined to be thrown away and deliver it to soup-kitchens, food pantries and other hunger relief organizations who serve food-insecure individuals and families.

[Institute for Local Self-Reliance \(ILSR\)](#)

Supports environmentally sound and equitable community development. To this end, ILSR works with citizens, activists, policymakers and entrepreneurs to design systems, policies and enterprises that meet local or regional needs; to maximize human, material, natural and financial resources; and to ensure that the benefits of these systems and resources accrue to all local citizens.

[Loop Closing](#)

Loop Closing designs, builds, and operates on-site systems to compost food scraps in even the densest urban environments.

[USDA-FNS / SNAP Farmers Markets](#)

America's farmers markets and direct marketing farmers are a great source of fresh fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods; we have made it a priority to expand access to such food for SNAP participants. SNAP offers nutrition assistance to millions of eligible, low-income individuals and families and provides economic benefits to communities.