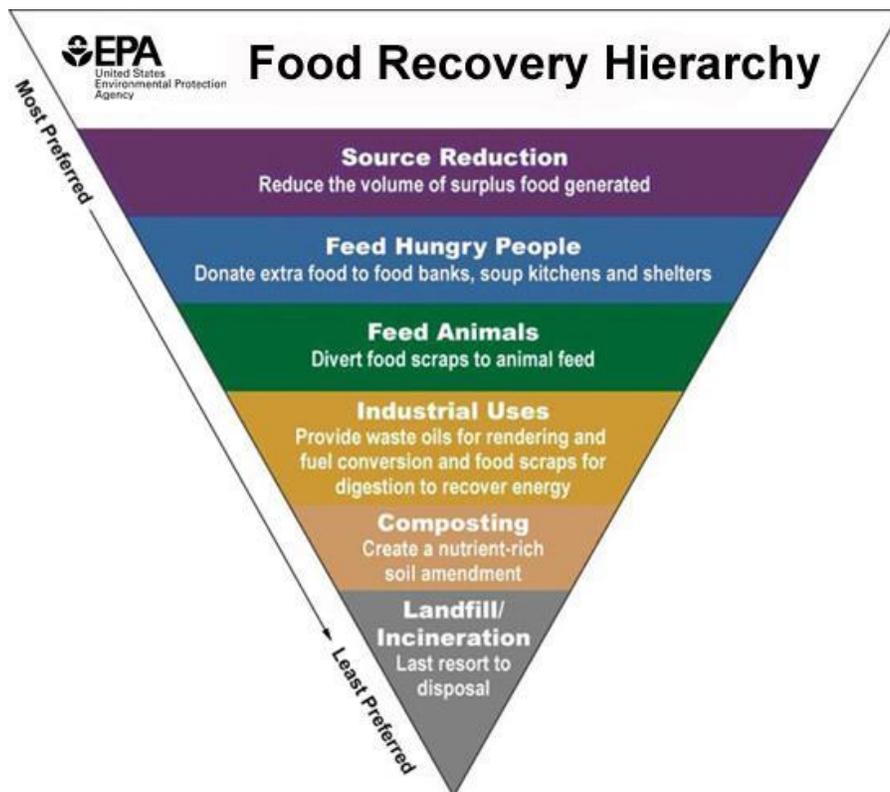




# The Problem: Wasted Food

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. While reducing hunger in the US will require addressing the root causes of poverty, donations of wholesome, fresh food can be an important strategy to addressing the immediate needs of millions of Americans.

Fortunately the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of California have set bold goals to increase food recovery and diversion of waste from landfills. In 2015, the EPA announces the first ever domestic goal to reduce food waste by 50% by 2030. In order to guide this effort the EPA established the Food Recovery Hierarchy, which prioritizes actions organizations can take to prevent and divert wasted food.



<https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-hierarchy>