



FAQs

SAFE SURPLUS FOOD DONATION FROM RESTAURANTS



1. What foods can be donated?

Almost anything you serve or sell can be donated, including meats and dairy even if they are close to their expiration date. There are a few exceptions such as, "homemade foods" (without a valid health permit), baby food and infant formula that has exceeded its expiration date or specially processed foods (e.g. Reduced Oxygen Packaged), but you can learn more about these items from Environmental Health.

2. Can I be held liable for donating food?

The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (National) and the California Health and Safety Code, specifically for California, offers protection as long as the foods being donated are wholesome and have been handled in a safe and sanitary manner.

3. How do we ensure the food is safe for distribution?

It is important to maintain the foods that will be donated in the same safe and reasonable manner which you hold other foods intended to be sold. You can always contact your health inspector if you have any questions regarding safe food handling measures.

4. Which Local organizations can I donate food to?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placer Food Bank 	
916-783-0481	 http://placerfoodbank.org/
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auburn Interfaith Food Closet 	
530-885-1921	 http://www.auburnfoodcloset.org/home.htm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project MANA (Lake Tahoe Area) 	
775-298-4161	 http://www.projectmana.org/

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