



NYSP2I Support for a Changing Food Waste Landscape

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Emerging Goals and Laws



International

- United Nations - **50% reduction** by **2030** per capita global food waste at retail and consumer levels



National

- USDA & EPA - **50% reduction of food waste by 2030**



State & Local

- NYS - Governor announced **commitment to food waste landfill ban**
- NYC - Adoption of several sustainability goals/practices
 - **Zero Waste by 2030**
 - **80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050**
 - **Food waste to landfill ban** already in place



What Does This Mean for Us?



Community Perspective

- Growing need for **information and tools** for food waste prevention and diversion and **outlets** for food waste

Business Perspective

- Growing **regulated** community
- Need for good **information** and **outlets** for food waste

Municipality Perspective

- Supporting business community by **providing information**
- Potentially regulated if operating **resource recovery facility**

NYS Municipality Benchmarking



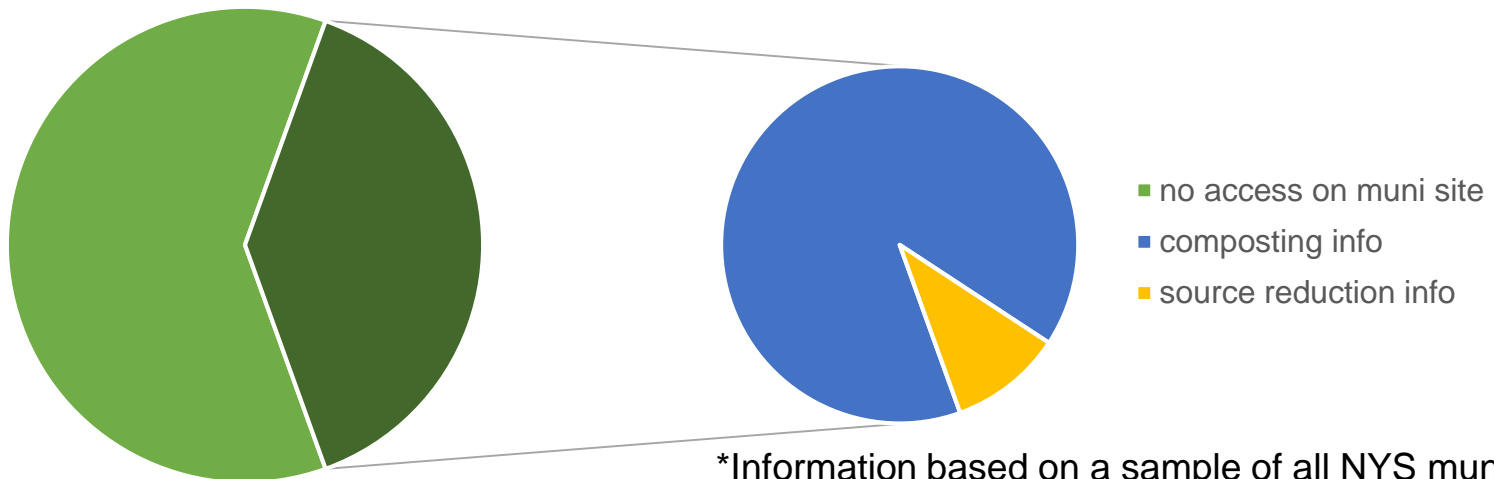
458 municipality websites reviewed

- Approximately 40% of the state (by population) has access to food waste diversion information through their municipalities
- The vast majority of information available is regarding composting, with a small fraction addressing source reduction



- County
- City
- Town
- Village

Food Waste Information Available on Municipality Websites



*Information based on a sample of all NYS municipalities

Resources are Available



Resources are available for **communities** and **businesses** that municipalities oversee, as well as **municipalities** themselves

NYSP2I

ESD

NYSDEC

Business
Assistance

Community
Grants
Program

Material Sets

\$4 million in
capital
funding

Climate
Smart
Communities

Municipal
Waste
Reduction &
Recycling
Grant

NYS Pollution Prevention Institute



- HQ at RIT
- Established in 2008 “**NYSP2I**”
- Beginning 5th year of second 5 year contract
- Focus on reduction of natural resource consumption (water, raw material, energy) and elimination of waste and hazards
- P2 research, technical assistance, education and outreach
- **15+** full-time staff

R·I·T

Clarkson
UNIVERSITY
defy convention



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

UB University at Buffalo
The State University of New York



Rensselaer



Division of
Science, Technology
& Innovation

A Division of Empire State Development



MEP • MANUFACTURING
EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP
National Institute of Standards and Technology

Funded Support for Food Waste Initiatives



Guide NYS and its **stakeholders** to a more sustainable food system by providing the **information** and **tools** necessary to **reduce** and **recover food resources**.



**ESD Implementation
Funds**

**NYSP2I Community
Grant Funding**

**Business
Assistance**

**Municipality
Engagement**

Outreach and Assistance



Brief Assistance

- <1 day of work
- No cost
- Leveraging existing materials/research on hand

Project Support

- 2-4 months
- 10% cost share (typically)
- Involves exploratory work by staff and multiple tasks

Education/Training

- May be subset of another effort or own assistance
- Requirements and application determine cost



Food Waste Reduction Assistance



Challenge

- Food waste is the single largest contributor to our solid waste stream

Objective

- Help businesses reduce and divert food waste

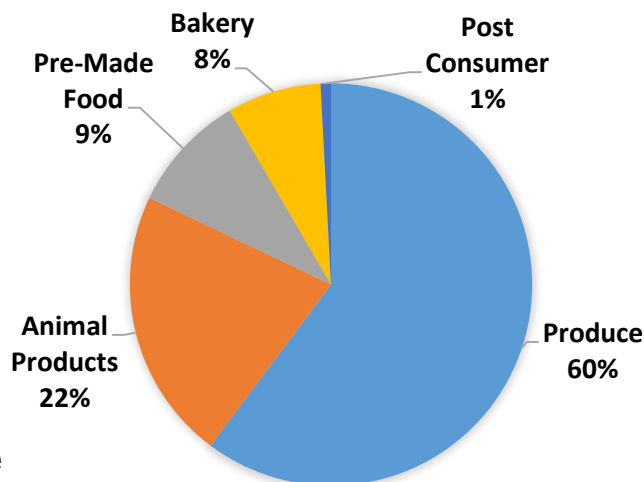
Work Performed

- Collect and analyze data
- Provide recommendations
- Provide implementation assistance

Results (to-date)

- 13 “large generators” assessed and guided through:
 - Data driven decision making
 - Understanding food suitable for donation
 - Connecting with local food banks
 - The importance of food safety

EXAMPLE ASSESSMENT OUTPUT –
WASTE COMPOSITION



Actions taken by clients

- Increase donations and food waste diverted from landfill
- Purchase smaller serving trays
- Changes to menu options
- Adjustments to amount of food prepared

Food Waste Tool Box - Clearinghouse



<https://www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i/food/>

- Self-assessment tools
- Food waste estimator tool
- Organic resource locator
- Best practices (reduction/diversion)
- Source separation guidance
- Food donation guidance

Community Grants Program



Community organizations, academic institutions and municipalities that seek to improve health, the environment and the economy through pollution prevention are funded by NYSP2I.

Last Year

- **13** grants awarded, **\$238K**
- **325** Events, workshops & conferences hosted
- **3,757** individuals trained in P2
- **50** individual materials created
- **8,313** materials distributed
- **339** individuals reported increased awareness of P2



Community Grants Program Projects



Tompkins County Solid Waste Management

Save the Food Campaign

Goal: To reduce and divert residential food waste from landfills by implementing a community-based social marketing and media campaign.

NYS Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NYSRAEF)

Green Hospitality Initiative's Restaurant Food Waste Project

Goal: To assist restaurants in the NYC and Lower Hudson Valley region to better manage food waste.

Hudson Valley Regional Council

Feeding the Hudson Valley

Goal: To educate and generate awareness of food waste through a large public event held October 7th, 2017 on the Walkway over the Hudson.

Radix Ecological Sustainability Center

The Community Compost Initiative

Goal: To reduce and divert food waste from landfills by expanding compost collection and the education system in the Albany, NY area.

Expanding Assistance for Municipalities



- ✓ **Benchmarking municipalities'** involvement in food waste reduction and diversion
- ✓ **Understanding existing materials** and tools available through municipalities
- **Creating** a set of **materials** for municipalities to encourage food waste prevention and diversion
- **Providing** direct **assistance** to municipalities



We want you to get involved!

<http://bit.ly/munifoodsurvey>

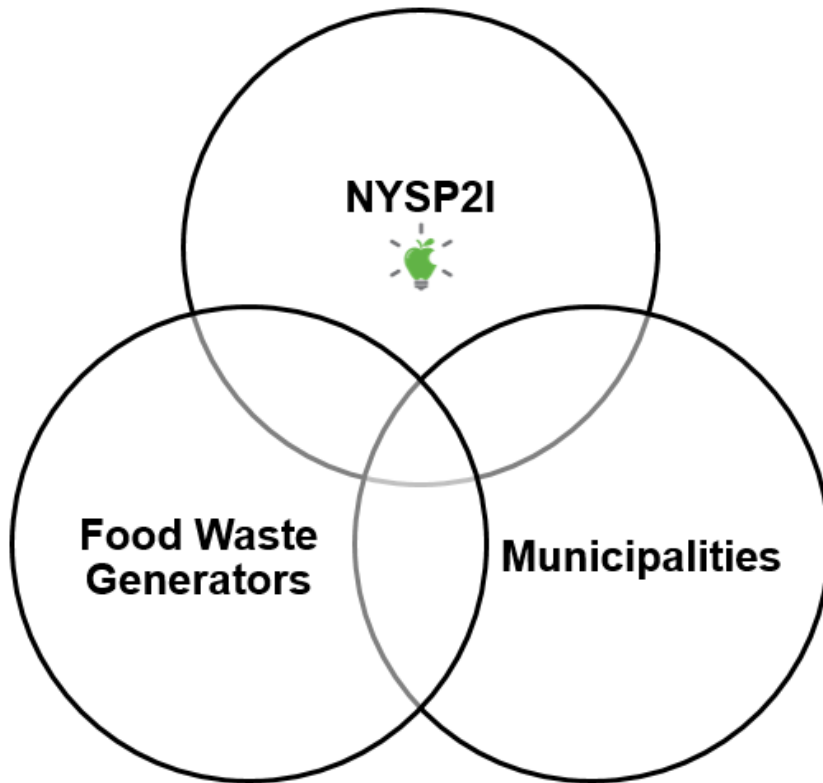
Capital Funding



- Empire State Development
- \$4 M over 3 years
- Capital equipment
- Support food waste generators
 - Reduce food waste
 - Divert food waste
- 55% cost share
- Reimbursements only
 - must meet metric commitment
- *Funding not yet available*



The Takeaways



- The food waste landscape is changing
- Work directly with NYSP2I through Community Grants or technical project assistance
- Partner together to educate food waste generators on best practices
- Utilize Clearinghouse material online
- Promote ESD funding to business community when it becomes available
- Leverage NYSP2I to support education/tool development for residents

Questions?



Contact:

Email: food.p2i@rit.edu

Food Clearinghouse: <https://www.rit.edu/affiliate/nysp2i/food/>



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