

How do I donate?

Identify a food recovery agency in your area that is currently accepting donations.

The Food Bank is a great place to start. Visit the Solano County SB1383 webpage for a complete list of food recovery agencies.

Sign up...

for a Meal Connect account. It's easy and free!

Identify the recoverable, edible food for donation...

Store it in a clean, dry place at an appropriate temperature until donated.

Keep a record...

of all donations! Ask a Solano County rep for record keeping help.

Food donations are tax deductible. Donors could save money during tax season!



The Good Samaritan Food Donation Act protects donors from liability, providing the food was fit for human consumption at time of donation.

Contact Us:

SB1383@solanocounty.com



The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano is located at:

2370 N Watney Way
Fairfield, CA 94533

Create a MealConnect account to get started!

MealConnect[®].org

Food Donation Guide for Tier 2 Generators



Edible Food Recovery Guide for Donors



SOLANO COUNTY

What is edible food?

Any food that is intended for people to eat, including food not sold because of appearance, age, freshness, grade, surplus,



etc. This includes produce, packaged, and prepared foods.

Why donate?

1 in 6 Americans experience food insecurity, yet 40% of U.S. food is wasted every year. By donating food, you can reduce hunger in your community.

Wasted food in landfills will decompose differently than in compost facilities, producing harmful greenhouse gases. By donating edible food, California can reduce emissions from landfills.



What can I donate?

Food recovery organizations will only accept donations that are edible, clean, and clearly labeled. Be aware that food recovery agencies may struggle with products needing special handling or temperature requirements like refrigeration or hot holding on short notice. Create a relationship with your recovery agency and be mindful of capacity concerns. When in doubt, contact the Food Bank!

Accepted food categories:

Check with the recovery agency if hot, prepared foods or chilled items are accepted. Be aware that potentially hazardous foods (PHFs) must be stored at or below 41F OR at or above 135F. PHFs held in "the danger zone" (between 41F and 135F) must be discarded after 2 hours.

- Meats & frozen foods in original packaging
- Dairy products, unspoiled and dated appropriately
- Fresh produce
- Baked goods in original packaging
- Deli meats & cheeses with ingredient labels
- Shelf-stable goods such as rice, pasta, cereals, and soups
- Canned goods with seal intact

What is not accepted?

Food recovery organizations usually cannot accept the following items:

- Food with damaged packaging
- Food that has been temperature abused
- Produce showing signs of mold, heavy bruising, or decay
- Baby formula
- Items with chipped or broken glass packaging
- Open or partially used items unless the recovery agency can accommodate prepared foods
- Food significantly past expirations. Meats must be frozen by "Sell By" date on packaging



Recovery Tip:

If you are unsure if food is safe to donate, contact a Solano County representative

Be aware of organic disposal options for spoiled or non-donatable foods.