



# Food Waste

The Problem & What You Can Do

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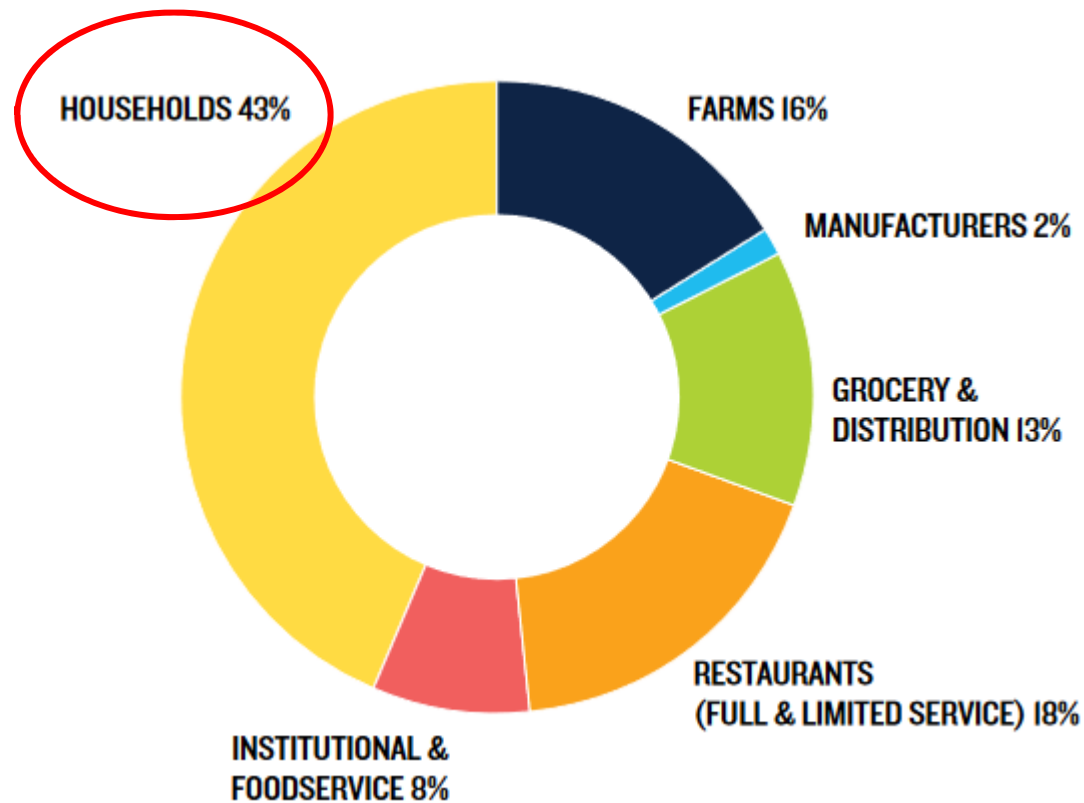


# San Diego's Landfill Composition

- Organic Material is food scrap & yard trimmings
- Encinitas disposes 7,500 tons/year food scrap
- 4,000 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e / year generated from all Encinitas food waste being landfilled



# Food Waste from Households



- 400 lbs of food per person annually
- \$1,800/year for family of 4
- Take the kitchen caddy challenge

# The Problem with Landfilling

- Food production
  - 40% isn't eaten
- Landfill space
  - largest contributor by weight
- People in need
  - 1 in 5 San Diego kids are food insecure
  - 1/3 of food thrown out would feed all needy
- Wasted resources

 **21%**  
OF ALL FRESH WATER

 **19%**  
OF ALL FERTILIZER

 **18%**  
OF CROPLAND

# The Problem with Landfilling



composting

aerobic decomposition

$\text{CO}_2$  off-gassing



landfilling

anaerobic decomposition

$\text{CH}_4$  &  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  off-gassing

*Greenhouse gas emission from landfilled food in US  
→ 37 M passenger vehicles' emissions*

# Comparison of California Regions

Region	Food waste diversion?
Los Angeles	✓ Separate waste stream
San Diego	X Nothing for households
San Jose	✓ Municipal waste sorting
San Francisco	✓ Separate waste stream
Fresno	✓ Combined with yard trimmings

So what can you do?



# Self-Management & Local Solutions

- Free composting workshops and Master Composter course
- Subsidized compost and worm bins
- Food Cycle drop-off program
- School food rescue
- Less to Landfill consulting to businesses
- Event food waste planning and diversion

# Your Neighbors

Moved here from Atlanta



First time composter



Repeat customers



Experienced composters



Food Cycle participant



High volume composters





# Thank you



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