

Food donation guide for Carlsbad businesses



Help your business support your community

Each year, Carlsbad grocery stores, restaurants, and other food generating businesses discard tons of edible food. Businesses can work with food recovery organizations to redirect that food to help address food insecurity. Food donation is a safe, simple practice with meaningful benefits for local businesses and our community.

It's the law

California state law Senate Bill (SB) 1383 and Carlsbad Municipal Code mandates that by 2025, at least 20% of edible food that is currently disposed of must be recovered and donated for human consumption.



Who has to comply?



JAN. 1, 2023

Tier One Food Generators (supermarkets, grocery stores, etc.)

JAN. 1, 2024

Tier Two Food Generators (large restaurants, hotels, local education agencies, etc.)

Starting Jan. 1, 2024, penalties may be issued for non-compliance. For more information about tiers, visit calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/foodrecovery/donors/

SB 1383 requirements

- Enter into a **contract** with a food recovery organization to support the collection of edible food.
- Recover **the maximum** amount of edible food possible.
- **Keep records** on all contracts and written agreements, contact information for all food recovery organizations that collect edible food, the types of food donated, frequency of collection, and quantity (measured in pounds per month).
- Do not **intentionally spoil** edible food that can be recovered.
- Allow **Carlsbad city staff** to access the premises and review records once a year.

For a full description of the SB1383 requirements, visit carlsbadca.gov/foodrecovery.



Legal protections

California's Good Samaritan Donation Act (AB 1219) helps protect food donors from liability. Businesses are legally protected from criminal and civil liability when food is donated to non-profit or charitable organizations in good faith, using standard safe food handling procedures.



Food donation doesn't have to occur daily, but having a food recovery partner lined up ahead of time will make food donation convenient and easy.

Businesses may opt to give excess food to employees to consume. They may also sell excess food for a discount using apps like Too Good To Go.



Enhanced tax savings

The federal tax code allows businesses to claim enhanced deductions on donated food. Consult a tax professional for more information.

How do I get started?

1. Contact a local food recovery organization. Email the Sustainable Materials Management Division for more info at foodrecovery@carlsbadca.gov.
2. Enter into a food donation agreement with a food recovery organization.
3. Work with the food recovery organization to create a donation schedule that suits your needs.
4. The food recovery organization will safely deliver your food to people who need it most.



Contact a local food bank to get connected with a food recovery organization:

Feeding San Diego

Kate Garrett | (858) 283-8978
fooddonation@feedingsandiego.org

San Diego Food Bank

Kayla Thomson | (858) 863-5133
donatefood@sandiegofoodbank.org

Chefs to End Hunger

info@chefsendhunger.org

We are here to help.

Contact the City of Carlsbad's Sustainable Materials Management Division for more information.

foodrecovery@carlsbadca.gov | 442-339-2646
carlsbadca.gov/foodrecovery

