



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
City Operations Center Second Floor Conference Room | 305 Williams St. |
Hendersonville, NC 28792
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 – 4:30 PM



AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Approval of February meeting minutes
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Welcome new members - *Virginia Tegel, Chair (5 minutes)*
 - B. Vote for new Vice-chair - *Virginia Tegel, Chair*
 - C. Tree Board collaboration - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff Liaison and Glenn Lange, Tree Board Member (5 minutes)*
 - D. ESB outreach plans for 2025 - *Virginia Tegel, Chair (7 minutes)*
 - Rhythm and Brews booth confirmation
 - Discussion on ESB attending civic group meetings to inform on ESB - Lions Club, Kiwanis, Young Professionals
 - HEF booth plans - displays and member schedule
 - Presentation Trinity Presbyterian Church April 2, 5:30pm
 - E. Workday at Sustainability Demonstration Station - *Virginia Tegel, Chair (5 minutes)*
 - F. Sullivan Park Community Tree Planting Day - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff Liaison (5 minutes)*
 - Proposed to be on 4/25 in the afternoon and would consist of planting 40 trees in collaboration with the Tree Board and Stormwater Department
6. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Mayor's Monarch Pledge update - *Jill Carter, Member (5 minutes)*
 - B. Stream restoration fund update - *Virginia Tegel, Chair (5 minutes)*

- C. Green Partnership update - *Caitlyn Gendusa (on behalf of Jane Edgar), Staff Liaison (5 minutes)*

Request to allocate \$337.53 to fund marketing materials for program

7. SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER UPDATE

- A. ESB Sponsored Shred Event - May 16th, 2025 - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Sustainability Manager*

Environmental benefits: <https://youtu.be/jND-SsJjAUY>

- B. Discuss potential amendment to Sustainability Strategic Plan - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Sustainability Manager (5 minutes)*

- C. Food Connections Hendersonville launch - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff liaison (7 minutes)*

8. UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL TOPICS PERTINENT TO ESB

- A. Upcoming City Council Topics Pertinent to ESB - *Virginia Tegel, Chair (5 minutes)*

9. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE

- A. City Council Liaison Update - *Gina Baxter, Councilmember (5 minutes)*

10. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Sustainability Hero Award discussion - 15 minutes

11. ADJOURNMENT

The City of Hendersonville is committed to providing accessible facilities, programs and services for all people in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you need assistance or an accommodation for this meeting please contact the City Clerk no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting at 697-3005.



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MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:33 p.m.

All present except Frank Stewart

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Omar Zafra motioned to approve followed by Jane Edgar

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of January 2025 meeting minutes

Jane Edgar motioned to approve followed by Tanya Guzman

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Glenn Lange and Betsey Zafra present

5. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

A. Hendo Earth Fest update - Omar Zafra, Chair and Betsey Zafra, Co-Chair - 15 minutes

Betsey Zafra and Omar Zafra are reaching out to food vendors and contacting Blue Ridge EV Club to participate. Julia Heimer is handling marketing. Currently half of exhibitors are confirmed with a targeted 65 exhibitors total.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Stormwater presentation - *Mike Huffman, Stormwater Director - 45 minutes*

Mike Huffman shared an overview of the Hendersonville's Stormwater Department, history, and green infrastructure. Mike Huffman also asked if ESB is interested in co-sponsoring a tree planting day in April which ESB agreed to.

Omar Zafra brought up that no one would have any idea of all the green infrastructure features throughout the City and suggested having more signage or education. Caitlyn Gendusa plans on hosting a "Sustainability Stroll" later on this year including stops at sustainability features throughout the City.

7. UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL TOPICS PERTINENT TO ESB

Main related item includes the Sustainability Strategic Plan Annual Report presentation at 2/12 City Council meeting

8. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE

New board members are being voted on at 2/12 City Council meeting

The 715 Greenville Highway project is coming back for consideration at the Planning Board which will propose accepting vouchers income restricted members.

9. SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER UPDATE

A. Food Connections Hendersonville launch

Moved to March meeting

B. Presenting Sustainability Strategic Plan Annual Report at 2/12 City Council meeting

10. OLD BUSINESS

A. Sustainability Hero Award update - *Virginia Tegel, Chair - 5 minutes*

2 nominations received

B. ESB student member update - *Omar Zafra, Member and Virginia Tegel, Chair - 5 minutes*

Virginia Tegel and Omar Zafra presented at a Hendersonville Highschool Interact Club to 50 students to talk about the ESB, the new student member position, and volunteering at Hendo Earth Fest.

C. Stream restoration update, *Jill Carter and Jane Edgar, Members - 5 minutes*

Jane Edgar and Jill Carter are getting together to meet and discuss next steps. Virginia Tegel suggested presenting at Hendo Earth Fest.

D. Green Business initiative update, *Jane Edgar and Tanya Guzman - 5 minutes*

Jane Edgar is starting with Kimberly Clark.

E. Sustainability Demonstration Station schedule - *Virginia Tegel, Chair - 10 minutes*

Virginia shared the schedule and asked members to volunteer for dates.

F. Mayor's Monarch Pledge 2025 activities - *Jill Carter, Member - 10 minutes*

Jill Carter shared the proposed 2025 activities. Caitlyn Gendusa suggested ESB partner with the Tree Board for overlapping priorities.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

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2025 Mayor's Monarch Pledge Actions - City of Hendersonville

Proposed Action Items

1- Engage* with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs

2- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

3- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

Stream Restoration Grant - City of Hendersonville, ESB
Must be awarded by May, 2025
\$5,000. Total

Submitted by Virginia Tegel, March, 2025

Purpose

To enact strategy as outlined in the Sustainability Strategic Plan regarding Water:

- stream restoration efforts to demonstrate the importance of riparian buffers and water quality.

To fulfill outreach support by the Environmental Sustainability Board:

- Promote, facilitate, and act as liaison to educate citizens on environmental sustainability issues affecting the City of Hendersonville
- Review programs and activities other communities have implemented that would be effective in Hendersonville.

Program

Offer \$500 to ten city of Hendersonville homeowners, application date May 1, 2025. Awards to be reviewed by two ESB members and approved by board on May 13 meeting. Homeowners must submit receipts to be reimbursed by May 27. Reimbursement for applicable plants only. Any monies remaining could be allocated to existing native gardens - Brooklyn Community Gardens

Promote the project at Hendo Earth Fest, Farmer's Market 5/3 and online. Share with similarly minded organizations to promote (e.g., Co-op, Mountain True, Conserving Carolina, etc.)

Projects to be considered:

Establishing rain garden

Planting native shrubs/trees along stream bank

Planting live stakes along stream bank

RipRap (Stabilization using large rocks)I think rip rap could be done with bigger projects next year - it's helpful to reduce sedimentation

Something to consider: Funding under the program is on a first-come, first-served basis. Eligible project applications that exceed available funds will be rolled into the following program year, and applicants can reapply for additional funds in the following year.

To Apply, please submit the following to Caitlyn Gendusa, Sustainability Manager, cgendua@hvlnc.gov

1. Description of homesite for streambank restoration, including parcel number, any available plot maps and pictures.
2. Indicate if project is in response to damage from Hurricane Helene
3. Narrative outlining the streambank restoration activities to be undertaken and materials used (max 3 pages)
4. Funding request and any homeowner financial contribution

Evaluation/Documentation

Awardees must submit photographs as follows:

Before picture

Immediate after completion of project

One year after

Two years after

NC State Soil and Water

<https://www.ncagr.gov/soil-water/swcccap-brochure/download?attachment>

Grant administered thru <https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/soilwater>

[Community Conservation Assistance Program \(CCAP\)](#) - The Community Conservation Assistance Program is a voluntary, incentive-based program designed to improve water quality through the installation of various BMPs on urban, suburban and rural lands, not directly involved in agricultural production. CCAP consists of educational, technical, and financial assistance provided to landowners who are responding to increased urbanization. CCAP can help educate landowners on water quality, storm water management, and retrofit practices to treat storm water runoff. Common BMPs include riparian buffers, stream restorations, and abandoned well closures. CCAP focuses on water quality.

The purpose of the Community Conservation Assistance Program is to reduce the delivery of nonpoint source (NPS) pollution into the waters of the State by installing best management practices (BMPs) on developed lands not directly involved in agricultural production. Through

this voluntary, incentive-based conservation program, landowners are provided educational, technical, and financial assistance.

Applicants can be reimbursed up to 75 percent of a predetermined average cost or actual cost up to a cost cap for each BMP installed. The applicant is responsible for 25 percent of the costs. This may include the use of existing material and labor.

Questions??

Are there remaining funds

Average \$\$ award to homeowners

Raleigh

<https://raleighnc.gov/stormwater/services/apply-raleigh-rainwater-rewards>

Program Process

Here's what you need to do to complete a project. This process can take several months and varies based on the project type, location, and approvals.

<https://raleighnc.gov/stormwater/services/drainage-assistance-program/stream-stabilization-program>

1. Stream Stabilization **Stream Stabilization** helps with **minor to moderate erosion issues** caused by stormwater runoff coming from public streets or public properties (not otherwise covered by the Drainage Assistance Program).

2. Buffer Builder Bag Program

The **Buffer Builder Bag (B3) Program** is a voluntary program that provides City of Raleigh property owners with free native shrub and tree seedlings to help improve or create a streamside buffer on their property.

Buffer Builder Bag Plants



3. Stream Bank Repair Workshops

If you are experiencing **minor to moderate stream bank erosion** on your property, consider participating in **Stream Bank Repair Workshops**.

Lawrence

<https://www.lawrencevillega.org/772/Ditch-Stream-Bank-Stabilization-Program>

About the Stabilization Program

Stream bank stabilization protects stream banks from erosion and landslides using structural, vegetative, or bioengineering methods. These methods help prevent land loss, damage to adjacent facilities, and the downstream effects of sediment and greatly improve the quality of stormwater runoff.

Eligibility

Eligible properties within the city limits may qualify for stabilization assistance through the Engineering Department. The Stabilization Program is available to property owners who have a **ditch** or **stream** located within their property limits. Because of the special characteristics of ditches and streambanks, specific stabilization methods must be used to prevent erosion.

Application

Property owners interested in stabilization assistance must complete a [Stabilization Program Application \(PDF\)](#). A site plan is required as part of the application process.

The site plan should include the following:

- Area of concern, property limits, property structures, any easements, and stormwater infrastructure
- Area of material drop off and proposed quantity of material needed to correct the erosive conditions
- Narrative describing the method of stabilizing the erosion

<https://www.lawrencevillega.org/DocumentCenter/View/2702/Ditch--Stream-Bank-Stabilization-Program-Application-PDF?bidId=>

Davenport

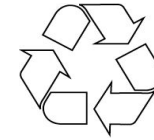
https://www.davenportiowa.com/services/public_works/water/stormwater_water_run-off/_streambank_stabilization_cost-share_program

The City of Davenport offers a 50/50 cost-share program for private streambank stabilization projects. Under the program, residents and commercial entities adjacent to a common waterway can request to participate in the streambank stabilization program and split the cost of stabilization with the City.

The City must agree that the repair is needed and projects must be approved by 100% of affected property owners.

Once stabilization is complete, properties are invoiced for a percentage of the work based on lineal feet adjacent to the waterway. Property owners may pay the bill within 30 days or have the cost assessed to the property, allowing property owners to spread the cost of stabilization over time (up to ten years).

Funding under the program is on a first-come, first-served basis. Eligible project applications that exceed available funds will be rolled into the following program year



01/01/2022 to 02/13/2025

RECYCLING RESULTS

0 Pounds

0 Tons

Certificate of Environmental Accomplishment

Awarded to:

CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

160 6TH AVENUE EAST, HENDERSONVILLE, US 28792-3775

By shredding and recycling with Shred-It, we estimate you saved :

0

Trees

0.21

Cubic
Yards of
Landfill

0.14

Barrels
of Oil

483.00

Gallons
of Water

Shred-it congratulates staff members on the positive impact this initiative has made towards saving our environment. Thank you for your business. [800-697-4733](tel:800-697-4733) | shredit.com

FOOD

connection

**Reducing Waste.
Easing Hunger.**

Food Connection was born in Asheville, NC in 2014

Item C.



Food waste statistics in the US

In the United States, people waste 92 billion pounds of food annually, equal to 145 billion meals. They throw away over \$473 billion worth of food annually. Shockingly, they waste 38% of all the food in America.

92B
pounds of food go to waste each year.

38%
of all food goes unsold or uneaten.

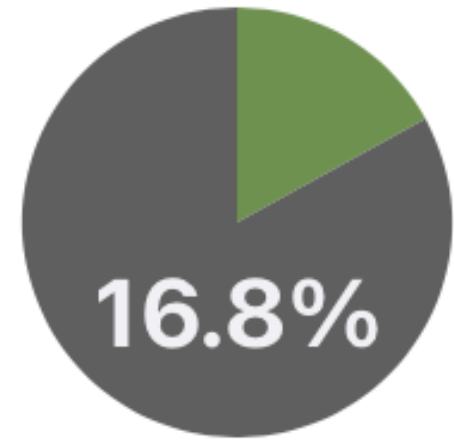
145B
meals' worth of food goes to landfills.

51.7%
of waste comes from the food industry.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY

FOOD INSECURE POPULATION (CHILD): 8,120

FOOD INSECURITY RATE (CHILD)



ESTIMATED PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY AMONG FOOD INSECURE PEOPLE CHILD

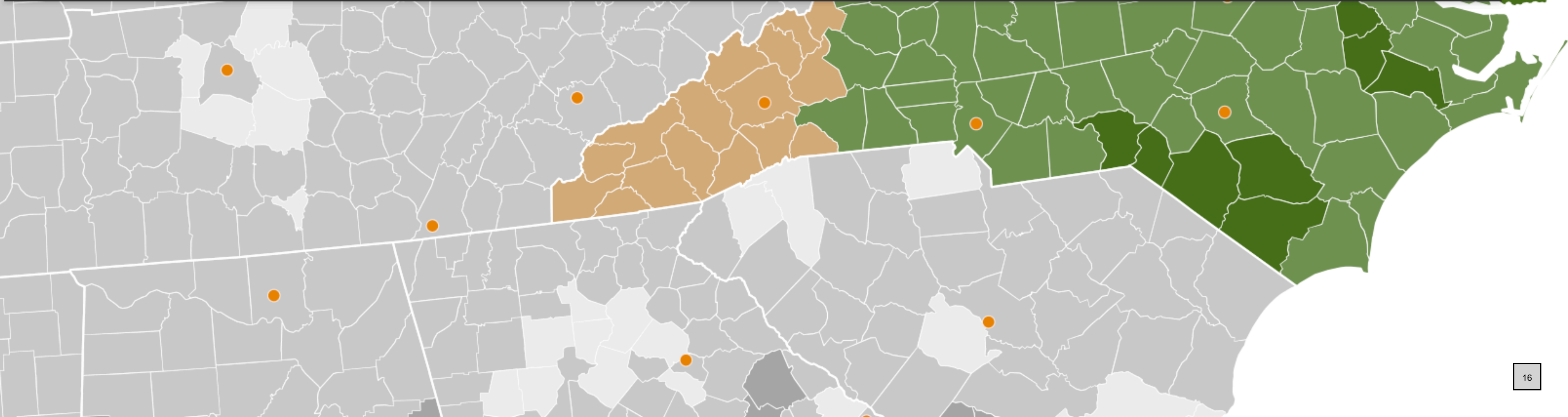


- 12%** Likely ineligible for federal nutrition programs (incomes above 185% of poverty)
- 88%** Income eligible for federal nutrition programs (incomes at or below 185% of poverty)

AVERAGE MEAL COST
\$ 3.07

ADDITIONAL MONEY REQUIRED TO MEET FOOD NEEDS
\$ 16,460,000

[Click a County to view details](#)



Food Connection reduces food waste and eases hunger by rescuing surplus chef prepared food and distributing it to our neighbors in need!





Federal Protection for food donors

The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act was passed in 1996 during the Clinton Administration.

Few people knew about it.

This law has never been contested in the courts.



Our Mobile Meals Truck delivers individually packaged, nutritionally balanced meals directly to communities who do not have enough to eat







TODAY'S MENU

CHICKEN with
mashed potatoes + vegetables

CHOPPED STEAK
mashed potatoes + veggies

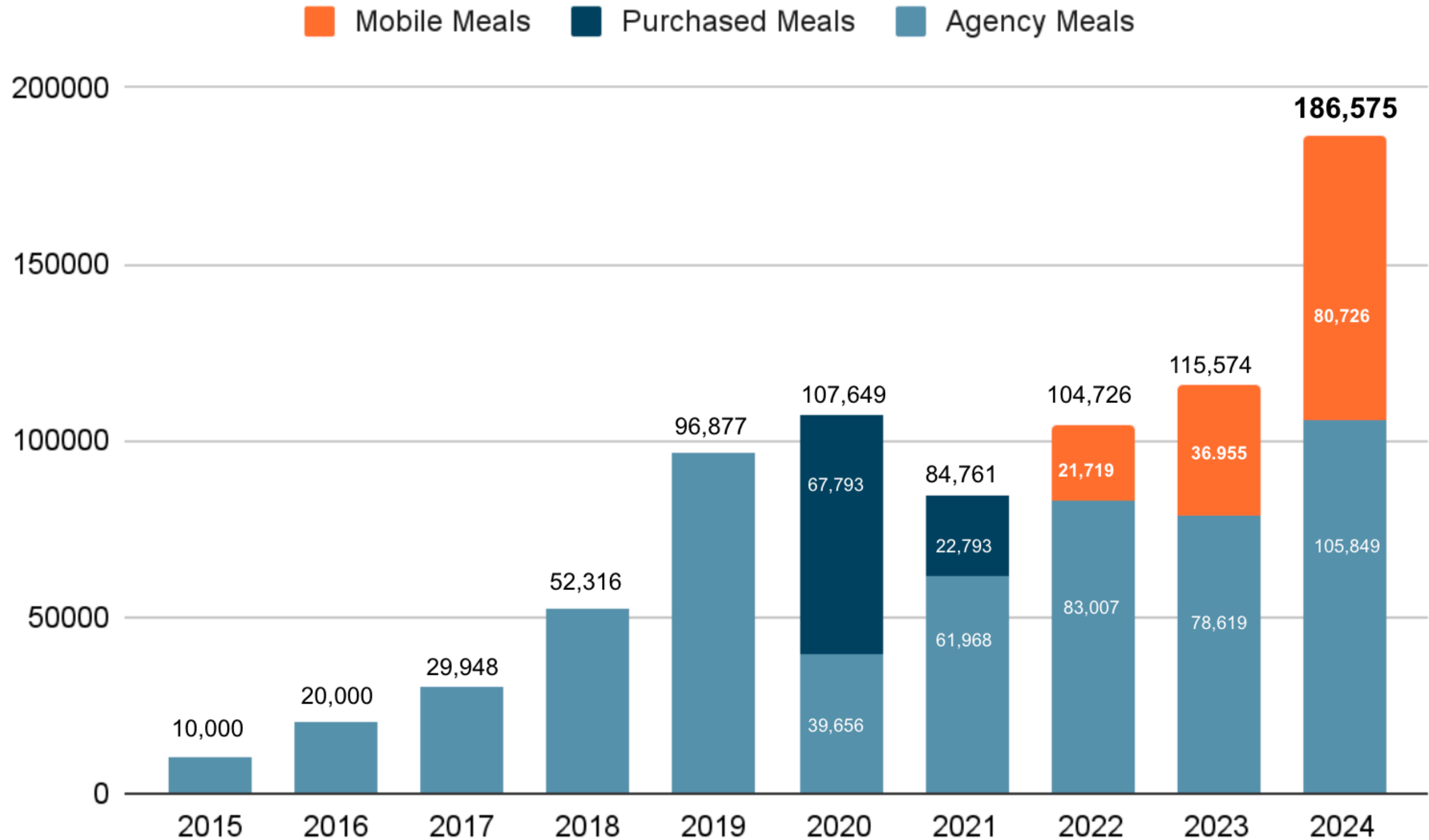
BLACK BEAN BURGERS
with mixed veggies + salad

ALL are welcome

NO CHARGE 😊



Historical Meals Distributed by Type



Food Donor Partners

Institutional Donors

Asheville Academy
 Asheville School
 Behavioral Health Group
 Belfor Property Restoration
 Biltmore Church
 Blue Ridge Assembly
 Blue Ridge Power
 Bounty & Soul
 Caiyalynn Burrell Child Crisis Center
 Care Partners
 Cragmont Assembly
 Deerfield
 Enka High School
 Evergreen Charter School
 Game of Throwing Leicester
 Givens Highland Farm
 Grace Episcopal Church
 Gwynn Valley
 Haw Creek Commons
 HCA Healthcare

Homegrown

MANNA FoodBank
 Meals on Wheels
 Mercy Chefs
 Mission Hospital
 Montreat Conference Center
 Pinegate Renewables
 Ridgecrest Conference Center
 Taste of Asheville
 The Cathedral of All Souls
 The Farm
 Thoughtful Pies
 UNCA
 Warren Wilson College
 Whole Foods
 World Central Kitchen

Gifted Food Donors

Explore Asheville
 Feeding Charlotte
 Fresh Point
 Halal Food Truck
 Jetti Rae's
 Locals Seafood
 Spanish for Fun

Restaurant Donors

Beradu
 Bold Rock
 Catering by Corey
 Celine & Company
 Chai Pani
 Chipotle
 Chop Shop
 Cliffs at Walnut
 Crest Center
 Dining Innovations
 Dogwood Health Trust
 Everyday Gourmet
 Filo
 Fioreously Delicious
 Good Wheel Farm
 Harrah's Cherokee Center
 Highland Brewing Company
 Homegrown
 LongHorn Steakhouse
 Luella's BBQ

Mountain Madre
 Old School Subs
 Omni Grove Park Inn
 Pack's Tavern
 Pinegate Renewables
 Posana
 Rabbit Rabbit
 Red Radish
 Sage and Spice
 Sierra Nevada
 Smash Events
 Starbucks
 The Venue
 United Way
 Urban Orchard

Food Recipient Partners

12 Baskets
 ABCCM Daily Meal
 ABCCM Hominy Valley Crisis Ministry
 ABCCM South Crisis Ministry
 ABCCM Transformation Village
 ABCCM Veterans Restoration Quarter
 Asheville Terrace Apartments via Meals on Wheels
 BEAR Closet in Marion
 Behavioral Health Group
 Bell Church UMC
 Big Ivy Community Center
 Black Mountain Helene Distribution Center
 Black Mountain Home for Children
 Black Mountain Open Table
 Blue Ridge Apartments
 Bounty and Soul
 Bountiful Cities
 Bread of Life
 Collins Center
 Community Pick-up (Squashgate)

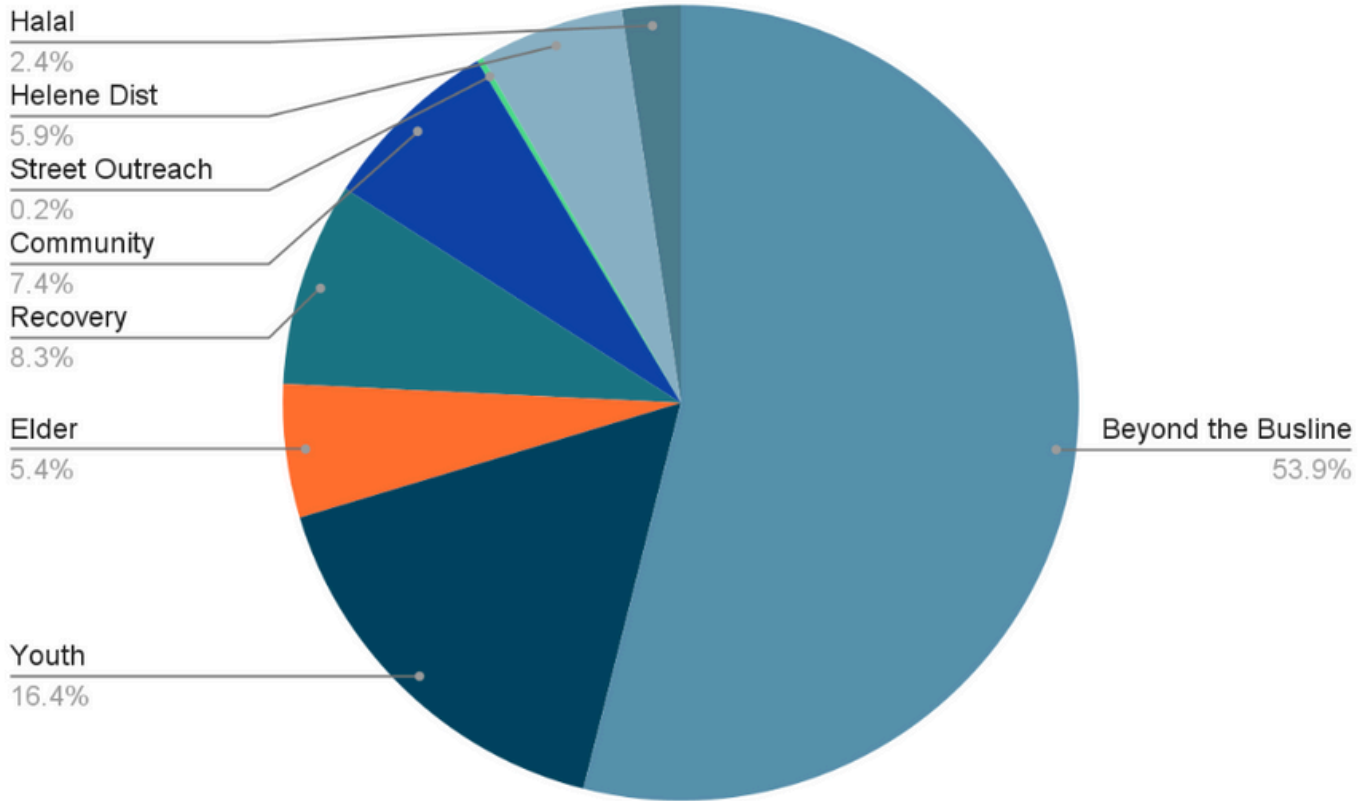
Compass Point
 Chop Shop
 Dream Center
 East Asheville Welcome Table
 Equal Plates Project
 Food Waste Solutions
 Foothills Food Hub
 Francis Asbury United Methodist Church
 Givens Gerber Park
 Grass Roots
 Haywood Respite
 Homeward Bound's AHOPE Day Center
 Hope for Tomorrow
 Loving Food Resources
 Lutheran Church
 Mercy Chefs
 Mi Kasa Criolla
 Montessori Learning Community Of Asheville
 PODS
 Place Church

Regina's
 Rosetta's
 Taqueria Munoz
 Unete's MANOS Program
 Sage and Spice
 Salvation Army
 Search and Rescue
 South French Broad Free Fridge
 St. James Church Food Pantry
 Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry
 Sunrise Community Center
 Sunrise Respite
 Western Carolina Rescue Mission
 YMI Cultural Center

Henderson County Agency Recipients:

Back on Track Addiction Ministries
 Hope United Methodist Church
 Lighthouse Foundation
 Providence Baptist Church

2024 Mobile Meals Distributions by Program



Beyond The Bus Line: 36,885 meals

- *Big Ivy: 543
- Candler: 3702
- *Fairview: 4446
- Leicester Drive Thru: 12702
- Ridgeview: 4665
- Swannanoa Drive Thru: 9964
- Veterans Restoration Quarters: 1163

Community Connectors: 5,064 meals

- Brandee East Asheville: 50
- Brenda: 393
- Craig: 80
- East Asheville Community Connector: 112
- Ellie: 1739
- Equal Plates Project: 50
- Jess: 66
- Loving Food Resources: 104
- Maggie: 24
- Mary Benson: 25
- Nancy: 684
- Nicanda: 55
- South French Broad Fridge: 946
- Stefanie: 88
- Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries: 610
- Vaudie: 16

Helene Distributions: 4,050 meals

- AB Tech: 240
- Biltmore Iron and Metal: 20
- Blue Ridge Terrace Apartments: 45
- Burnsville Helene Distribution: 200
- Clearmont Fire Department: 40
- Crossroads Church: 83
- Eddington Center: 790
- Emergency Buncombe: 25
- Grace Church: 106
- Green Mountain Helene Distribution: 61
- Johnston Middle School: 50
- Place Fellowship Church: 150
- Reuter Family YMCA: 454
- Rose's: 100
- UNETE: 1363
- Wellcare: 75
- West Yancey Fire Department: 125
- Woodfin Apts: 48
- Woodfin Helene Distribution: 75

Halal: 1,630 meals

- Beloved Asheville: 250
- Biltmore Village: 90
- Fairview: 300
- Reflection Point Village: 150
- Rock Hill Baptist Church: 295
- *UNETE: 545

Youth: 11,215 meals

- AmeriCorps: 15
- Asheville Youth Collective: 25
- Bear Closet: 132
- Collins Early Learning Center: 420
- Hope for Tomorrow: 760
- In Real Life (AVL Middle): 1018
- Montessori Learning Community: 184
- PEAK Academy: 328
- PODS: 2370
- Verner Center for Early Learning: 3872
- Youth Transformed for Life: 2412

Recovery: 5,665 meals

- Asheville Survival: 56
- Behavioral Health Group: 1614
- Compass Point: 20
- Dream Center: 92
- DSS: 78
- Haywood St Respite: 20
- Helpmate: 225
- Homeward Bound AHOPE: 290
- Lighthouse Collective Foundation: 1406
- Sunrise Community Center: 1343
- Sunrise Respite: 471

Elder: 3,708 meals

- Asheville Terrace Apartments: 2100
- Blue Ridge Apartments: 1471

Street Outreach: 166 meals



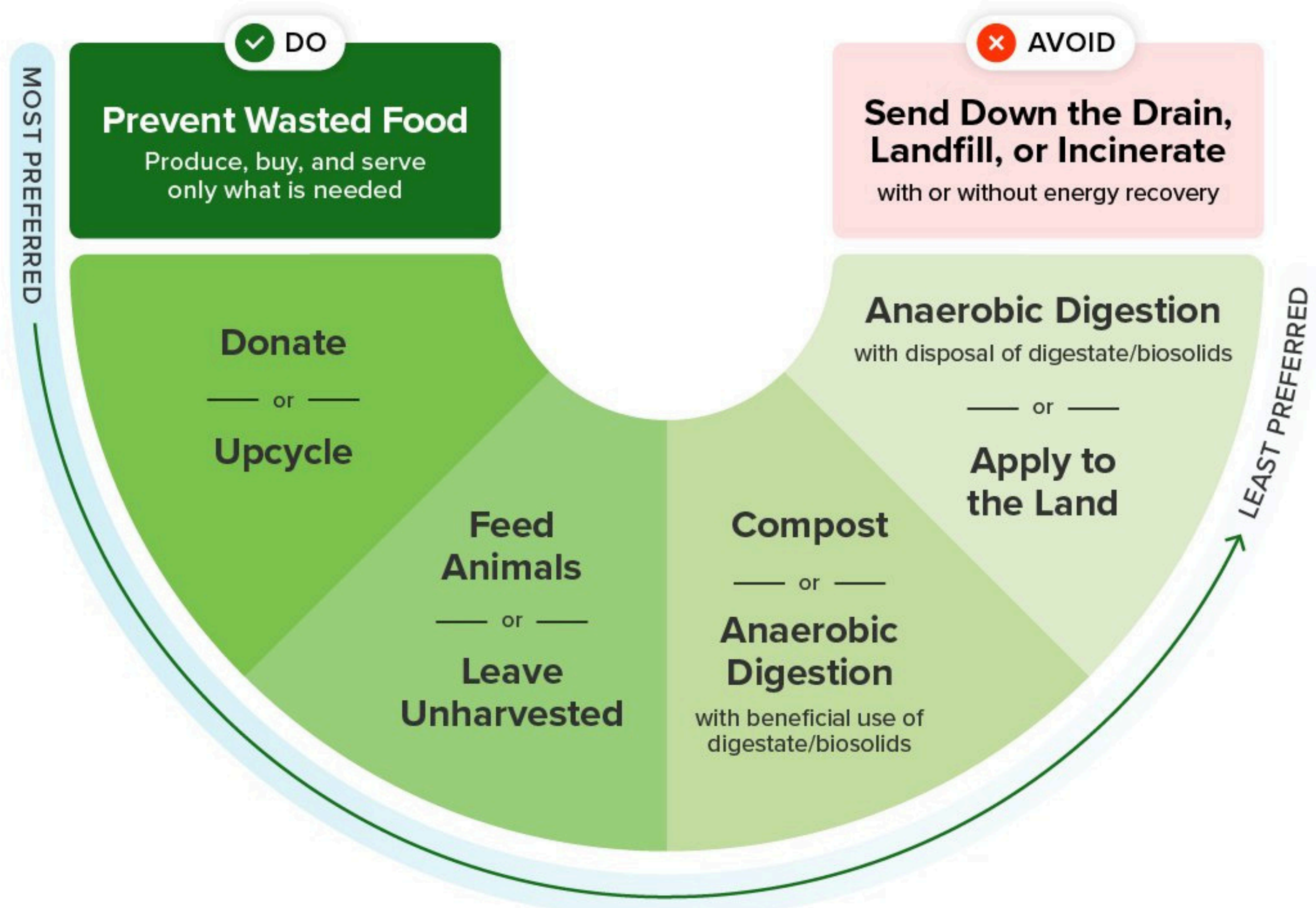
Reducing Food Waste.
Easing Hunger.

- **70 Donor Partners:**
- **56 Nonprofit/Faith Group Food Recipient Partners**
- **Mobile Meals Distributions: 26**
 - * Youth 8
 - * Beyond the Bus Line 6
 - * Community Connectors 15
 - * Recovery 10
 - * Elder 2



Wasted Food Scale

How to reduce the environmental impacts of wasted food



Environmental Partners & Initiatives



Recycling Initiatives

- Pan recycling - now a measurable miscellaneous income
- Recycling plastic cutlery and togo boxes from restaurant partners
- Paper/plastic recycling on site for meal packing shifts

Compost Partners

- Compost NOW
- Warren Wilson
- 12 Baskets

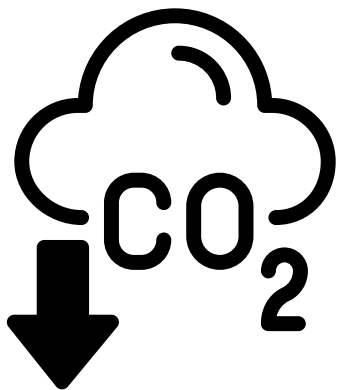


2024 Environmental Numbers

2024 --> 160,232 lbs diverted from the Buncombe County Landfill

That converts to:

- 416,603 lbs CO2 avoided
- 608,881.6 lbs Methane avoided
**25 times more potent than CO2*
- 481,218 miles driven







Hendersonville soft launch

Current Food Donors:

- Gwen Valley Summer Camp

Food Prospect Donors:

- Kanuga Conference Center
- Fallen Creek
- Eagle's Nest Camp
- Bonclarken Center
- Kenmore Country Club
- Hendersonville Country Club
- Lake Pointe Landing Retirement Center
- Carolina Village Retirement Center

Location for Trailer: St. James Episcopal

(Food Connection Board Member donated money for the Hendersonvill Trailer!)

Hendersonville Volunteers Committed: 10+

Current Food Recipients:

- Back on Track Addiction Ministries
- Hope United Methodist Church
- Lighthouse Foundation
- Providence Baptist Church



Reducing Food Waste.
Easing Hunger.

Food Connection stats:

Total Chef prepared meals served to our neighbors in need:

808,000+

Total amount kept out of the landfill:

350+ TONS