

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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# Store Donation Program

FEEDING  
AMERICA



# About Feeding America



**Our mission** is to feed America's hungry through a nationwide network of member food banks and engage the country in the fight to end hunger.

# About Feeding America



- We are the **nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity.**
- Our network is **comprised of national office in Chicago and more than 200 food banks** that fight hunger in every zip code.
- Feeding America Network **distributes more than 3 billion pounds** of food and grocery product annually.
- **495 million pounds** of the distributed product comes from the store donation program
- Each year, we **feed more than 37 million people** through our 63,000 partnering local shelters, food pantries, kitchens, etc...

## The Store Donation Programs ...

- Useable perishable and non-perishable products are gleaned and held for donation at Store level
  - Non-perishable products will be inspected using GMA Unsalable sorting guidelines
- Stores hold the product in a proper temperature controlled environment (freezer, cooler, dry storage, etc.) until pickup.
- Partnering food banks pick up the product from Stores
  - Each food banks will work with their Stores on pick up schedules that minimize dock congestion and storage constraints
- Product is transported, stored and distributed in temperature controlled units, under proper temperature requirements by food safe certified individuals
- Product is inspected by partnering food banks prior to distribution.

# Store Donations



- **Store Donation Program History ...**

- 1999 - Grass roots program started at Food Lion
- 2000 - Small program starts at HEB
- 2000 – Conference for Food Protection creates perishable donation guidelines
- 2001 - Food Lion formalizes guidelines and rolls out to all stores
- 2001 - Kroger authorizes perishable donations, 6 divisions start programs
- 2004 - Albertson's launches Fresh Rescue program and pilots in the Northwest
- 2006 - Target rolls out program to SuperTarget store format
- 2007 – Kroger assigns Director of Fresh Recovery to expand program to all divisions
- 2008 – Sam's Club opens program to all stores
- 2009 – Walmart rolls out program to all SuperCenters and Neighborhood Markets
- 2010 – Winn Dixie rolls out to all stores
- 2010 – Publix starts rolling out to all stores
- 2011 – BJs Whole Stores rolling out to all stores

# Store Donation Program Status



## Store Donations Results

- FY08 - 3200 stores, 96 million pounds
- FY09 - 6000 stores, 198 million pounds
- FY10 - 9000 stores, 378 million pounds
- FY11 - 10500 stores, 490 million pounds
- FY12 — est. 11000 stores, 625 million pounds

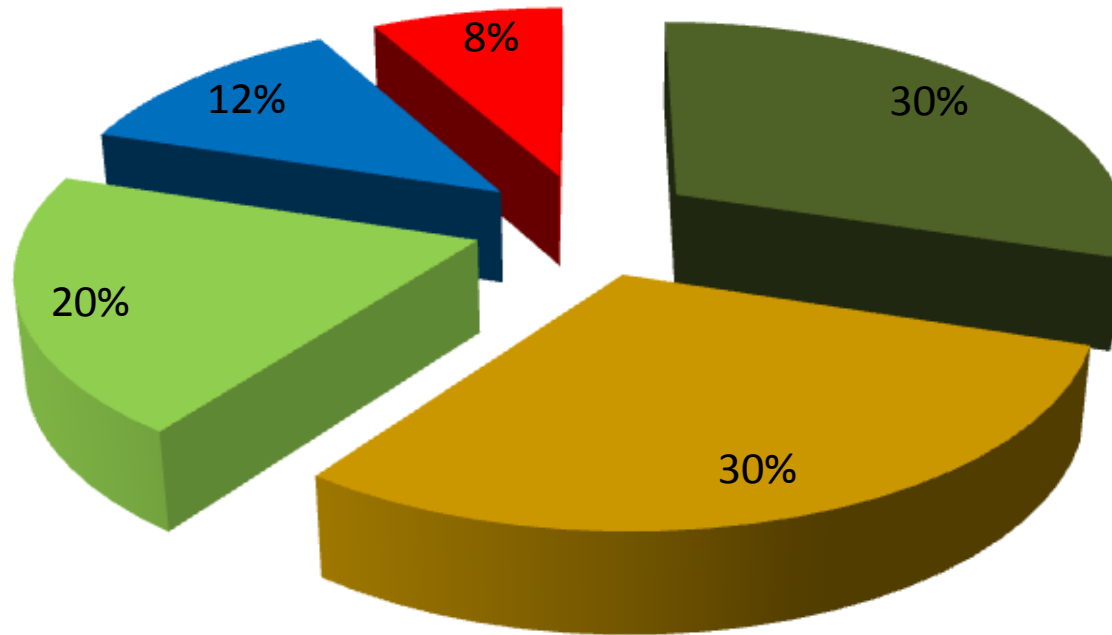
## Notable Store Counts

- Walmart – 2900 stores, SAM's 600 stores
- Kroger – 2000 stores
- SUPERVALU – 2000 stores
- Delhaize – 1100 stores
- Winn Dixie – 500 stores



# Retail Store Donations

## The Perishable Product Mix ...



■ Meat   ■ Bakery   ■ Produce   ■ Dairy   ■ Misc.

# Restaurant Depot Locations



## Your Pound Potential ...



# Common Questions



- What about liability
  - All donations made in good faith are covered on the Good Samaritan Act
    - Became Federal law in 1996
    - To date, there have been no legal challenges to the Good Samaritan Act
  - Feeding America's standards are aimed at preventing use of Good Samaritan Act
- What about food safety
  - In 2000 the Conference for Food Protection created donation guidelines for recovering perishable products safely
    - Guidelines mirror Grocery Industry handling and storage guidelines
  - Non-perishable sorting guidelines created with assistance from GMA/FMI
  - Feeding America members and their agencies are contractually bound and audited for compliance

# Common Questions



- Is there additional labor cost to donate
  - Retailers tell us that there is little or no additional labor involved with setting product aside to donate vs. trash
  - Loose produce that is donated does need to go into produce of food grade boxes
    - These boxes may have gone toward a cardboard recycling program
- Is there additional storage to hold temperature control product
  - The donation of perishable product requires the use of a small area in freezer and coolers to hold product safely while awaiting pick up

# Common Questions



- What about product dating
  - When to donate, on or before the date(s)
    - Based on each Corporations standards
- How of is product picked up
  - Feeding America encourages each food bank to work directly with their Stores to determine frequency
    - The local partnership will find the right number of pick ups per week to minimize impact on Stores and maximize number of pounds per pickup
- What are typical pilot program hurdles
  - Top down company buy in
  - Creating new habits to set aside for donation

# Store Donation Benefits



- Product is helping those in need
  - Positive community involvement, positive message to community
- Tax deductible
- Landfill cost reduction...fits sustainability efforts
  - Landfill reduction
  - Reduction of waste disposal cost
- Employee Morale
  - #1 comments from employees “I hate to see useable product going in the dumpster”

# Store Donation Benefits



- Donation tracking and consolidated report
  - Monthly reporting in pounds by Feeding America categories
  - Reporting provides visibility to current waste stream
  - Reports provide via Excel or PDF
- Recall tracking and reporting
  - Network wide recall system
- Exempt from Bio-Terrorism reporting requirements

# Retail Store Donations



- **Getting Started**
- **Assign Point Person**
- **Set donation guidelines**
- **Identify pilot locations, 8-10 stores**
- **Pilot program for 60 days**
- **Measured Expansion**