



# Collaborate with Industry Peers to **Target, Measure, and Act** to Reduce Food Waste



The U.S. Food Waste Pact is a national voluntary agreement led by ReFED and World Wildlife Fund that helps food businesses accelerate progress toward their waste reduction targets. Aligned around the global framework of "Target, Measure, Act," the Pact's signatory engagement model encourages businesses to move beyond just ambition and commitment-setting by taking meaningful action through collaboration and data-driven strategy within their business operations and across the supply chain.

## How It Works

**Target:** Signatories sign a voluntary agreement that allows them to participate in food waste reduction efforts facilitated by the Pact. A public-facing food waste reduction target, while preferred, is not a requirement to sign onto the U.S. Food Waste Pact.

**Measure:** Data is collected and used for anonymized, aggregated public reporting, informs collaborative discussions and intervention project scope, and provides custom analytics back to signatories.

**Act:** Signatories actively participate in topic-based Working Groups and industry-specific Sector Summits, as well as pilot projects to test and scale cost-effective and high-impact food waste solutions.

## Proven Process



### Return on Investment:

ReFED data shows that for every \$1 invested in food waste prevention efforts, companies can expect between \$3.40 – \$6.60 in savings.



### Data Insights

Aggregated, anonymous reporting from signatories enables businesses to measure progress, identify priority areas of action, and benchmark against competitors.



### Industry Collaboration

The Pact convenes and facilitates collaborative conversations, including quarterly topic-based Working Groups and industry-specific Sector Summits to identify common barriers, share best practices and successes, and drive adoption of solutions that work.

## Why Food Waste?

In the U.S., 31% of all food goes unsold or uneaten—a \$382 billion opportunity for the nation, including \$108 billion in lost value for food businesses alone. Food waste contributes 4% to the country's greenhouse gas emissions and consumes more than 16% of the U.S. freshwater supply, all while one in seven Americans face food insecurity. The U.S. Food Waste Pact is a concerted, strategic effort to accelerate food waste reduction—both an important business efficiency and climate change solution.



## Resources



The U.S. Food Waste Pact has built on the success of the Pacific Coast Food Waste Commitment, a public-private partnership along the West Coast of North America. Since 2023, the Pact has established two new national datasets in both the retail and foodservice sectors, expanded whole chain collaboration through waste hotspot analyses, and produced actionable resources for food businesses across the supply chain.



### Progress in Reducing Food Waste: A Data Report

[Download Resource](#)



### Reducing Food Loss & Waste in the Frozen Potato Supply Chain

[Download Resource](#)



### The Employee Engagement Toolkit

[Visit Resource](#)

## What Signatories Are Saying

“The ability to work with our foodservice peers to take action through both collaborative conversation and pilot projects has been a powerful tool in identifying solutions that turn discussion into tangible progress on reducing food waste.”

— Multinational Foodservice Operator

“We appreciate the collaborative and engaging forums the Pact creates among our industry peers. Forging these critical connections helps us not only learn from others’ experiences but problem-solve together to address one of our food system’s greatest challenges of reducing food waste.”

— Multinational Grocery Retailer

“The U.S. Food Waste Pact will allow us to further our own efforts to reduce food waste, and also encourage others to set their own goals, and contribute to the wider progress of the Pact.”

— Multinational Manufacturer

## U.S. Food Waste Pact Signatory Benefits

- Waste data analysis and assistance
- Sector-specific waste calculators
- Collaborative convenings like Working Groups and Sector Summits to collaborate with other signatories
- Opportunities to pilot projects led by technical experts
- Confidential peer benchmarking
- Public promotion of signatory successes
- Early access to new tools, insights, webinars, and case studies
- One-on-one food waste coaching and support

## How much does it cost to join the U.S. Food Waste Pact?

Membership in the U.S. Food Waste Pact is free for the first year. In the second year, there is an annual contribution tiered according to a signatory’s national annual revenue. Signatory fees, while a small portion of the U.S. Food Waste Pact budget, directly support delivery of membership benefits.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please reach out to [kristen.lee@refed.org](mailto:kristen.lee@refed.org).

Signatory Annual Revenue (USD)	Annual Contribution	Tons of Prevented Food Waste to Cover Contribution*
Over \$100B	\$35,000	12.5 tons
\$50B - \$99B	\$20,000	7 tons
\$1B - \$49B	\$10,000	3.5 tons
\$0 - \$999M	\$5,000	1.75 tons

\*Estimated tons of prevented food waste to justify the suggested contribution, based on averaging ReFED’s modeling of the cost-benefit ratio for prevention solutions.