



The Roster

Know Who to Include in Your Play

Core Team Players

Your **principal** holds an important role in any Play.

- They can help connect you with important teammates in and outside of your school.
- If you are able to record the types of food being wasted, your **school nutrition team** and **principal** can also help calculate any cost-savings associated with implementing your Play.
- They will also be involved with any fundraising efforts related to your Play.

As students, you can help your **principal** by learning about and reminding her about important laws related to reducing food waste:

- [Good Samaritan Act](#)
- [Food Donation Guidelines in Child Nutrition Programs](#)
- [Guidelines on Donating Scraps to Livestock](#)

School Nutrition Staff and **Food Service Staff** are also really important.

- They will know the details about policies and what will be required to make changes like purchasing from local farmers or producers or restructuring lunch periods.
- Sharing details on when and what food is being wasted will help staff when planning menus and ordering food, so sometimes you can help stop food waste before it happens.

School Counselors can help you understand the unique needs of the students at your school.

- For example, younger students typically throw away more food than older students.¹
- Your **School Counselor** can also help you better understand food insecurity in your own student population when implementing food recovery strategies.

Parents will really important to help support strategies throughout the Play.

- Make sure parents know what, how, and why you are implementing different strategies and invite them to help whenever possible.
- **Parents** are a great source of information about the community and can help when students need extra assistance – **from food banks and shelters to community gardens and extension officers.**

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Important Community Players

Local Farmers can add value to and help with many strategies in your Play.

- They can serve as important sources of information by speaking to your school about locally produced food, the benefits of composting, and how they manage food waste on their own farm.
- **Farmers** can also support your Play by helping to manage food scraps – either for compost or animal feed.
- They can also serve as a source of food in helping to increase the amount of local food served by your school cafeteria.

Your **County Agricultural Extension Office** can also help!

- They can provide you with information on donating food scraps to feed livestock.
- Ask them to connect you with **local farmers** who would be willing to accept food scraps or who might be interested in providing local food to your school cafeteria.
- Your **Officer** may also know of Master Gardeners in your area who could speak to your school about composting and soil health.

Nearby Schools can be a great resource and opportunity for increasing the reach of your Play.

- Reach out to other schools in your district to find out if they are doing anything about food waste and how you can both work together and challenge one another to accomplish big goals.
- You can team up with other schools to hold poster contests and to implement food waste reduction or food recovery challenges across the district.
- Including **nearby schools** will increase your impact while raising greater awareness in the community about your Play.

Local Businesses can be recruited to support challenges in your school or district.

- Invite them to sponsor prizes and donate gift cards that will incentivize students, classes and schools to be competitive and achieve their goals.
- **Local Businesses** can also help spread the word and increase awareness in your community by displaying informational posters and promoting the winners of different challenges.
- Sharing your successes outside of school will encourage others to reduce food waste in their lives!

Working with a **Community Garden** and its members can be a valuable resource.

- They can help you with setting up a school garden or learning about composting.
- You can also find fellow gardeners who could use food scraps in their own compost bins and gardens.
- The American Community Gardening Association has a national membership of both new and experienced gardeners and an [interactive map for finding local gardens](#). Schools that join as members are even eligible to apply for funding!

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Recovery and Composting

Local Food Bank or Shelters can help you develop a food donation plan.

- Using Feeding America’s [Food Bank Locator](#) to find yours, work together to include the types of foods that can be donated, procedures for handling, packaging, storing and delivering donations, and the types of benefits you and your school can receive as a result.
- Think of them as your food donation partner and involve them in conversations about your school’s donation plan.

Janitorial Staff are key to ensuring that any composting effort is a success.

- They can help to better understand how waste is collected and disposed of at your school and offer recommendations for making your strategy a success.
- Ask them for input on where to place garbage bins and how to safely and cleanly transport waste to and from specific locations.

A **Waste Hauler** is a service provider who picks up waste and transports it to a landfill or incinerator.

- In many instances, your school’s **waste hauler** can recommend alternatives to landfilling or incinerating organic waste.
- This includes commercial composting facilities or local service providers that specialize in composting.
- This one will definitely need to go through the principal!

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ⁱ <http://www.gao.gov/assets/90/85554.pdf>

