Important Note: This activity was developed for the original Green Lunchroom Challenge program, a voluntary pledge program for K-12 schools to improve the sustainability of their food service operations. The project was coordinated by the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center Technical Assistance Program with funding from US EPA Region 5.

The following page(s) represent the content of this activity as it appeared on the original project web site, complete with available points and instructions for submitting documentation. **The project is no longer funded and as of June 2018 schools may no longer submit activity documentation to earn points and recognition as described.** The activity is presented for your information to guide your organization's sustainability efforts.

If your school or district implements the suggested activity and wishes to share its experiences, please email Joy Scrogum. Your story may be incorporated into a blog post on this web site, the main ISTC site, or shared on social media to foster networking and inspiration among peer institutions.

Set and submit your goal to EPA within 90 days of registering for the Food Recovery Challenge

Activity Category: Participate in the US EPA Food Recovery Challenge

Activity: Set and submit your goal to EPA within 90 days of registering for the Food Recovery Challenge

Rationale: Once you have joined the Food Recovery Challenge (FRC), you'll need to choose which activities your organization plans to undertake in order to reduce food wastage. Completion of the FRC Baseline Goals Form will also allow you to set your food diversion target. This will help you focus your efforts based on your particular situation, setting a realistic goal which you believe can be accomplished within a calendar year.

Activity Description: Once you have registered for the Food Recovery Challenge and have access to the SMM Data Management System (see the Green Lunchroom Challenge activity, 'Sign up for the US EPA Food Recovery Challenge and submit baseline data ↗'), you may also fill out and submit the FRC Baseline Goals Form within that system. Refer to the SMM Data Management System User's Manual: Food Recovery Challenge (link below), page 28 for guidance on filling out this form. Note that as an FRC participant there is no penalty for not achieving the goals you set for your organization. This is a voluntary program to assist you with setting goals and tracking progress toward food waste reduction-so don't feel too much pressure as you submit your goals.

Earn Challenge Points (200 points): To earn points for this activity, fill out and submit the FRC Baseline Goals Form in the SMM Data Management system, as outlined in the User's Manual (link below) beginning on page 28. You must submit this form to EPA within 90 days of joining the US EPA Food Recovery Challenge. Choose the activities you plan to undertake and set a goal in at least one food diversion category (summary) or specific activity (detailed). For the Green Lunchroom Challenge, submit a PDF or Word document that includes:

1. The date your organization registered for the Food Recovery Challenge **(required)**

2. The date you submitted your Baseline Goals Form to EPA **(required)**

3. A summary of the activities and goals you selected (you can include screen shots from within the SMM Data Management System to avoid retyping the information you submitted **(required)**

4. Your feedback, comments, or suggestions regarding use of the SMM Data Management System to complete this step **(optional)**

Send this document as an email attachment to Joy Scrogum at jscrogum@illinois.edu. Green Lunchroom Challenge staff will consult with the US EPA Sustainable Materials Management branch to verify your reported dates and status as an FRC participant before Challenge points are awarded.

Resources:

- US EPA Food Recovery Challenge-Main Page
- US EPA Food Waste Assessment Tools
- SMM Data Management System
- Example Participation Agreement
- SMM Data Management System User's Manual:Food Recovery Challenge
- Feeding Illinois: Member Food Banks
- Food Recovery Challenge (FRC) Awards
- Food Recovery Challenge Success Stories

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