

Food Waste



A massive climate “hot spot”

40% of all food grown is wasted; that translates to +700 million tons of greenhouse gases emitted for no reason at all. Wasted food further impacts the climate in landfill, where it emits nearly 60 million tons of carbon annually.

More food wasted means more food must be grown

Thanks to a combination of consumer waste and inefficiencies throughout supply chains, the EPA estimates that 40% of all food produced is wasted. That equals about 63M tons of food wasted each year in the U.S. alone. Based on these estimates, food wasted could equate to anywhere between 40 MMT to 1000 MMT of greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere every year.

Data: the first, critical component to confronting food waste at scale

To better understand the full food waste issue, EDF is working with the Global Produce Sourcing team at Walmart to conduct an analysis of food loss occurring during the production, harvesting, and storage stages in the supply chain of participating produce suppliers.

This data will help us identify areas of opportunity and bring tailored solutions to Walmart and its suppliers. The goal? Reduce food waste across supply chains, reduce costs and emissions for companies, and increase food efficiency that will provide nutrition to better feed the world.



Engage with EDF on food waste

Start collecting data to understand where waste is happening in your supply chain

This data will be the first step in helping understand why food waste is happening and what can be done to fix it. Engage with EDF to:

- understand the causes of farm-level food waste;
- learn from and share best practices with others;
- help your growers;
- work on pilot projects to reduce food waste, cut costs, and reduce emissions along the supply chain.

For more information about all the ways we're greening the global shopping cart, visit us at:

supplychain.edf.org

EDF + Business

Forging solutions that benefit both business and nature

For 25 years, we've combined cutting-edge science, economic expertise and unexpected partnerships to help high-impact companies transform “business as usual” in their products, operations, supply chains and advocacy. The Supply Chain Solutions Center is the central hub for tools, resources and best practices we've created to help companies like yours take part in that transformation.

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