

Food Policy
COUNCIL

JOHNSON COUNTY
KANSAS

The Johnson County Food Policy Council (FPC) serves as an advisory body to the Johnson County, Kansas Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and other decision makers in Johnson County.

The Vision of Johnson County Food Policy Council is to improve the health and well-being of citizens, communities and the environment of Johnson County.

The Mission of Johnson County Food Policy Council is to create a just, equitable and sustainable food system accessible to all in Johnson County through policy recommendations, education and collaborative work.

40% OF FOOD PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES IS NEVER EATEN

- U.S. households waste an estimated 76 billion pounds of food, or 238 pounds of food per person annually.
- This costs \$450 per person, or \$1,800 per year for a household of four.

THIS IS ABOUT MORE THAN JUST FOOD

It's about how our food system uses a considerable amount of our resources. Wasted food translates to **\$218 billion lost**.

FOOD WASTE CONSUMES:

 **21%**
OF ALL FRESH WATER

 **19%**
OF ALL FERTILIZER

 **18%**
OF CROPLAND

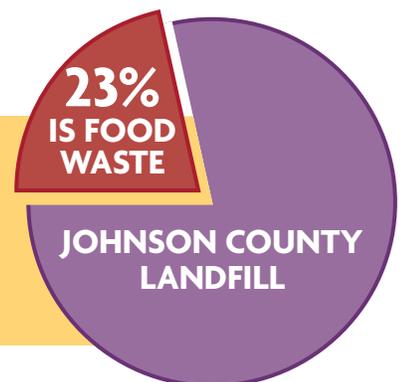
 **21%**
OF LANDFILL VOLUME

Reducing food waste will relieve agriculture pressures on the environment and increase business efficiencies for food producers and sellers.



The financial cost of food waste is greatest for consumers since they pay retail prices for food.

Food is a major contributor to the waste going into area landfills. A 2016 study of landfill waste calculated that **23% of Johnson County waste is food**. We want a community where people and animals are fed before landfills.



HOW WE SHOP AND EAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

- Households are responsible for the largest portion of all food waste.
- Because it has undergone more transport, storage, and often cooking, throwing food away at the consumer level has a larger resource footprint than at any other point of the food chain.



WHY DO WE WASTE?

- Consumers' lack of awareness and information
- Confusion over date labels
- Poor storage
- Poor planning
- Impulse and bulk purchases
- Overproduction



WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME

- Shop wisely, plan meals, use shopping lists, purchase accurate quantities, and avoid impulse buys.
- Interpret date labels as estimates of top quality rather than end dates for safety.
- Prepare appropriate amounts of food and save leftovers.
- Freeze food before it spoils, including milk, cheese, eggs, and meat.

PREPARE WHAT YOU CAN EAT **SAVE** WHAT YOU DON'T!

SAVE
THE
FOOD
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SAVE THE FOOD JOHNSON COUNTY

Johnson County Food Policy Council (FPC) is teaming up with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and the Ad Council to launch their national public service campaign SAVE THE FOOD that aims to combat wasted food from its largest source — consumers — by raising awareness and changing behavior.