



AMBASSADOR APPLICATION



SC DEPARTMENT of
**ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

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DID YOU KNOW?

Food waste is a serious problem across the county.

Where does food waste start?

It occurs at all levels of the system – from farm to plate – with nearly **72 percent occurring at home** and at **food service businesses** (e.g., restaurants, grocery stores).

SOURCES: ReFed, Feeding America, Natural Resource Defense Council, SCDES

Each year up to **40 percent** of the food supply in the United States is thrown away – an annual loss of **\$218 billion**. All this while more than **47 million Americans are food insecure**.

In South Carolina, nearly **700,000 tons** of food waste were created in fiscal year 2023 while at the same time **1 in 8 South Carolinians** struggle with hunger including **1 in 6 children**.



Don't Waste Food SC (DWFSC)

DWFSC is a collaborative outreach campaign that brings together ambassadors from the public and private sectors dedicated to sharing knowledge, coordinating resources and working together to reduce food waste in South Carolina.



The goals of the campaign are to:

- **Increase the awareness** of the economic, environmental and social impacts of wasted food;
- **Inspire individuals, communities, businesses, organizations, schools and others to take action** to reduce food waste through prevention and donation; and
- **Cut South Carolina's food waste in half** by 2030.

Food waste is a solvable problem.

AMBASSADORS WANTED!

The DWFSC campaign is centered on everyone doing their part to address this issue.

Each ambassador – from individual consumers to nonprofits, faith-based communities, grocery stores, restaurants, caterers, governments, farmers, schools, colleges/universities and more – has the opportunity to reduce food waste.

What are the benefits?

Reducing wasted food is your opportunity to lead by example and make a difference. By doing your part, **you can help feed hungry people, save money** and more.

As part of the campaign, the benefits include having:

- **Your logo placed** on the DWFSC website;
- **Your success story placed** on the DWFSC website and/or social media, shared on DWFSC YouTube videos, presentations and used in articles (all with your permission);
- **Automatic entrance** into the DWFSC annual recognition program;
- **Customized signage, posters and other material** provided to you; and
- **Support** for your efforts.

We're better together. Participating in the DWFSC campaign gives each of us the chance to shape the community that we live in – **everybody wins.**

What is expected?

Each ambassador is required to:

1. **Participate** in a food waste reduction activity; and
2. **Promote** the campaign.

To become an ambassador, complete the Ambassador Profile at des.sc.gov/dwfsc or scan the appropriate QR code on the next page.



Community Leaders Application

Community leaders are groups, businesses, schools, institutions, and organizations that have ample opportunity and resources to share our campaign.

Community leaders will be sources of information and useful materials to those around them. These groups provide a resource to their community, that may not know about food waste prevention and donation. Groups must attend trainings which will provide education and outreach materials.

Community leaders will have the chance to earn prizes for their group's efforts. All required survey questions must be completed before you can submit.



Individual Ambassador Application

To be an Ambassador, you must participate in and promote Don't Waste Food SC. Individuals are able to spread information and promote the campaign by showing an example to others in their communities.

The goal for our individual ambassadors is to educate on the topics of food waste and best practices, so then you may go spread and promote the information to others. Individuals have existing connections that make it easier for them to communicate our message.

Most people would rather a friendly face tell them what to do instead of a government agency. Remember, anyone can make a difference when it comes to food waste.

All required survey questions must be completed before you can submit.



Email dontwastefoodsc@des.sc.gov if you have any questions.

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