



MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
CONVENTION 2024

WELCOME!

Waste Not, Want Not: Eliminating Food Waste & Alleviating Hunger

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Food Waste in Michigan

Michigan landfills more than 2 billion pounds of food a year

Food is 25-30% of landfill material

EPA report: Michigan 6th largest emitter of landfill methane

11.4% of Michiganders face food insecurity

MI Healthy Climate Plan includes goal of cutting food waste in half by 2030



“Pulling the Emergency Brake”

Food waste reduction is tangible, doable, and cost-effective

Leads to immediate AND long-term GHG reduction

2030 goal shared by Michigan, US Government, United Nations



Zero (Food) Waste

Definition: "The conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health."

Primary Benefit

Clear directive. No food in the trash.



A
Blueprint
to
Zero Food Waste
in
Southfield

MAKE FOOD

The Southfield Plan

Objective: Identify how to prevent, rescue, share, and divert all food waste in a city

Process

Estimate baseline data

Convene all service providers

Understand best practices

Talk with stakeholders

Outline plans to reach all food waste generators

Estimate costs and necessary infrastructure

Present to City Council



Key Southfield Learnings

City is producing more than 20,000 tons of GHG emissions from food waste

Additional 1 million pounds of food can be redistributed

Residents can save \$38 million if consume all edible, purchased food

Restaurants can save \$1.5 million in food costs

Surveyed residents extremely interested in curbside composting

Businesses open to receiving help

Core Actions

Commitment

Funny marketing campaign

Pervasive communications

Social reinforcement

Technical training and education

Leverage untapped resources

Coordinated solutions



The City's Role

Promote the campaign via city channels

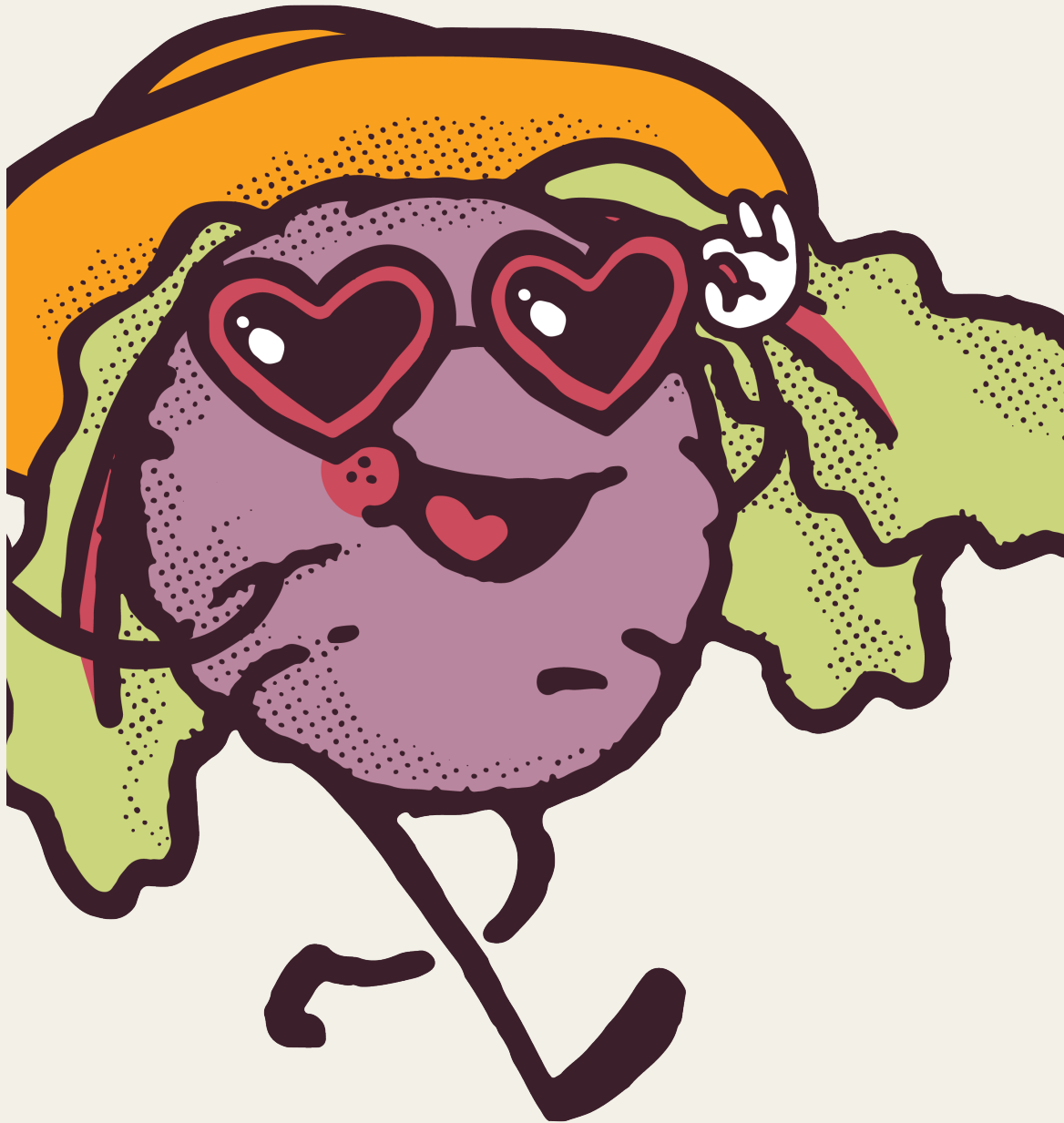
Lead by example: engage staff, collect food scraps onsite, use compost on property

Support backyard composting

Update site plan reviews to include food scrap collection

Require food waste diversion for events

Implement food scrap collection program for residents (including multi-family)



Next Steps

Final cost estimates

Single and multi-family collection

Implementation

Grant funding

Five new cities!

Zero Food Waste and YOU!

Understand Baseline

Determine volume and sources of food waste

Identify existing local resources

Lead by Example

Engage staff

Collect food scraps on city property and events

Procure compost for city development projects

Get Schools on Board

Encourage use of share tables

Engage Residents

Talk about it in resident communication

Make backyard composting possible and doable

Offer curbside composting

Give Businesses Help

Share liability and tax incentive information

Promote food rescue and sharing apps

Apply and pass on government grants

GO BIG!

Require all food waste be composted!



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