

Food: *Too Good to Waste!*

Feeding Animals the Foods We Don't Eat

Why Feed Animals?

San Diego County is an agricultural region with lots of farm animals. Uneaten food from school cafeterias makes a tasty supplement for them, and may potentially reduce the farm's feed costs. Feeding animals is a preferred method on the US EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy and one of the most environmentally-friendly for managing uneaten food.



Animal Feeding Options?

If your school has an agriculture and livestock program, you're off to a great start! That's the best option for uneaten food, and your animals will love you for it. Agricultural program manager not biting, or have too much for your own needs? Consider other options:

- Feed animals at another school in your district
- Collect food for teachers' or staff's animals
- Partner with and set aside for a local farmer

Which Foods do Animals Eat?

Yes! Whole fruits and vegetables, trimmings and peels.

Maybe! Baked goods including breads, rice, cookies, tortillas, citrus and onions.

Definitely No!

Trash, especially plastic!



What Resources are Required?

- **Animals** - Of course! To consume the foods uneaten by humans.
- **Food storage** - Ideally animals will be fed daily, though produce will last days if properly refrigerated.
- **Collection** - Students assigned to collect food from storage at arranged times, to coincide with feeding animals onsite or a farmer picking them up.
- **Storage containers** - Small coolers, or three or 5-gallon, food-grade buckets, and a refrigerated or cool, safe area for storage.
- **Training** - For collection methods, storage and feeding procedures.