

# How do I donate?

Identify a food recovery agency in your area that is currently accepting donations.

The Food Bank is a great place to start.

## Sign up...

for a Meal Connect account. It's easy and free!

## Identify the recoverable, edible food for donation...

Store it in a clean, dry place at an appropriate temperature until donated.

## Keep a record...

of all donations! Ask a Solano County rep for record keeping help.

*Food donations are tax deductible. Donors could save money during tax season!*



*The Good Samaritan Food Donation Act protects donors from liability, providing the food was fit for human consumption at time of donation.*

## Contact Us:

SB1383@solanocounty.com



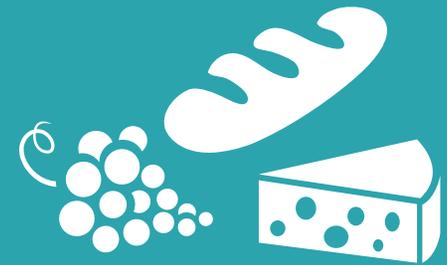
The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano is located at:

2370 N Watney Way  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Create a MealConnect account to get started!

**MealConnect**.org

# Food Donation Guide for Tier 1 Generators



## Edible Food Recovery Guide for Donors



SOLANO COUNTY

## What is edible food?

Any food that is intended for people to eat, including food not sold because of appearance, age, freshness, grade, surplus,



etc. This includes produce, packaged, and prepared foods.

## Why donate?

1 in 6 Americans experience food insecurity, yet 40% of U.S. food is wasted every year. By donating food, you can reduce hunger in your community.

Wasted food in landfills will decompose differently than in compost facilities, producing harmful greenhouse gases. By donating edible food, California can reduce emissions from landfills.



## What can I donate?

Food recovery organizations will only accept donations that are edible, clean, and clearly labeled.

Be aware that food recovery agencies may struggle with wholesale items or large donations on short notice.

Create a relationship with your recovery agency and be mindful of capacity concerns. When in doubt, contact the Food Bank!



## Accepted food categories:

- Meats & frozen foods in original packaging
- Dairy products, unspoiled and dated appropriately
- Fresh produce
- Baked goods in original packaging
- Deli meats & cheeses with ingredient labels
- Shelf-stable goods such as rice, pasta, cereals, and soups
- Canned goods with seal intact



## What is not accepted?

Food recovery organizations usually cannot accept the following items:

- Food with damaged packaging
- Food that has been temperature abused
- Produce showing signs of mold, heavy bruising, or decay
- Baby formula
- Items with chipped or broken glass packaging
- Open or partially used items
- Food significantly past expirations. Meats must be frozen by “Sell By” date on packaging



## Recovery Tip:

If you are unsure if food can be donated, using MealConnect or contact a Solano County representative.

Be aware of organic disposal options for spoiled or non-donatable foods.