Mayor Megan Barry recently issued a challenge in partnership with the Nashville Food Waste Initiative to the restaurants of Nashville to reduce the amount of food going to waste in their kitchens.

**Restaurant Challenge goal:** Commit to implementing or expanding a minimum of five food-saving practices between now and May 31.

*Details on types of practices can be found here: [https://www.nashville.gov/Mayors-Office/Infrastructure-and-Sustainability/Restaurant-Food-Saver-Challenge/How-to-Participate.aspx](https://www.nashville.gov/Mayors-Office/Infrastructure-and-Sustainability/Restaurant-Food-Saver-Challenge/How-to-Participate.aspx)*

**Participation Benefits:**
- Recognition by the mayor
- Inclusion in media coverage
- Invitation to a thank-you event for participating chefs
- Window cling for your restaurant
- Discount to Compost Nashville
- Benefits to the community include increasing the amount of donated food, reducing the amount of organic waste sent to landfill, and raising local awareness

*Sign up for the challenge and get full details here: [https://www.nashville.gov/Mayors-Office/Infrastructure-and-Sustainability/Restaurant-Food-Saver-Challenge/How-to-Participate.aspx](https://www.nashville.gov/Mayors-Office/Infrastructure-and-Sustainability/Restaurant-Food-Saver-Challenge/How-to-Participate.aspx)*

**Examples of Food Saving Practices:**
- Utilize foods that might otherwise go unused (like imperfect fruits and vegetables, unusual plant parts, and “nose to tail” approaches with animal products)
- Offer more flexible portions (like smaller portions, half-size options, etc.)
- Actively encourage use of appropriately sized “to-go” containers
- Donate surplus food
- Recycle food scraps by composting them
- Donate or sell food scraps for animal consumption

*For a full list of practices and resources visit: [http://www.nashville.gov/Mayors-Office/Infrastructure-and-Sustainability/Restaurant-Food-Saver-Challenge/How-to-Participate.aspx](http://www.nashville.gov/Mayors-Office/Infrastructure-and-Sustainability/Restaurant-Food-Saver-Challenge/How-to-Participate.aspx)*

*For more information, please email foodwaste@nashville.gov or call 615-259-4000*