



Virginia's Food Rescue & Composting Program

2024-2030

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

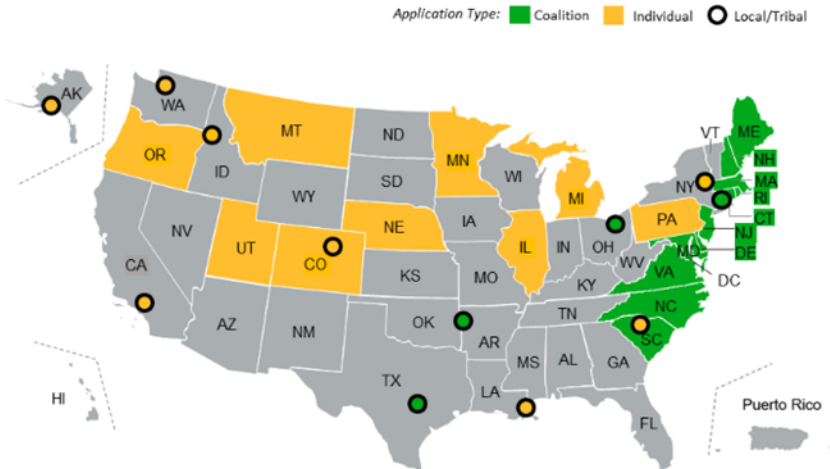
Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

- Part of the Inflation Reduction Act
- Implemented by EPA



Selected Applications

The 25 selected applications are from 13 state applicants, 11 municipal applicants, and 1 Tribal applicant and will fund projects in 30 states. Eight of the selected applications were submitted by coalitions of multiple entities that will collaborate to implement the proposed projects.



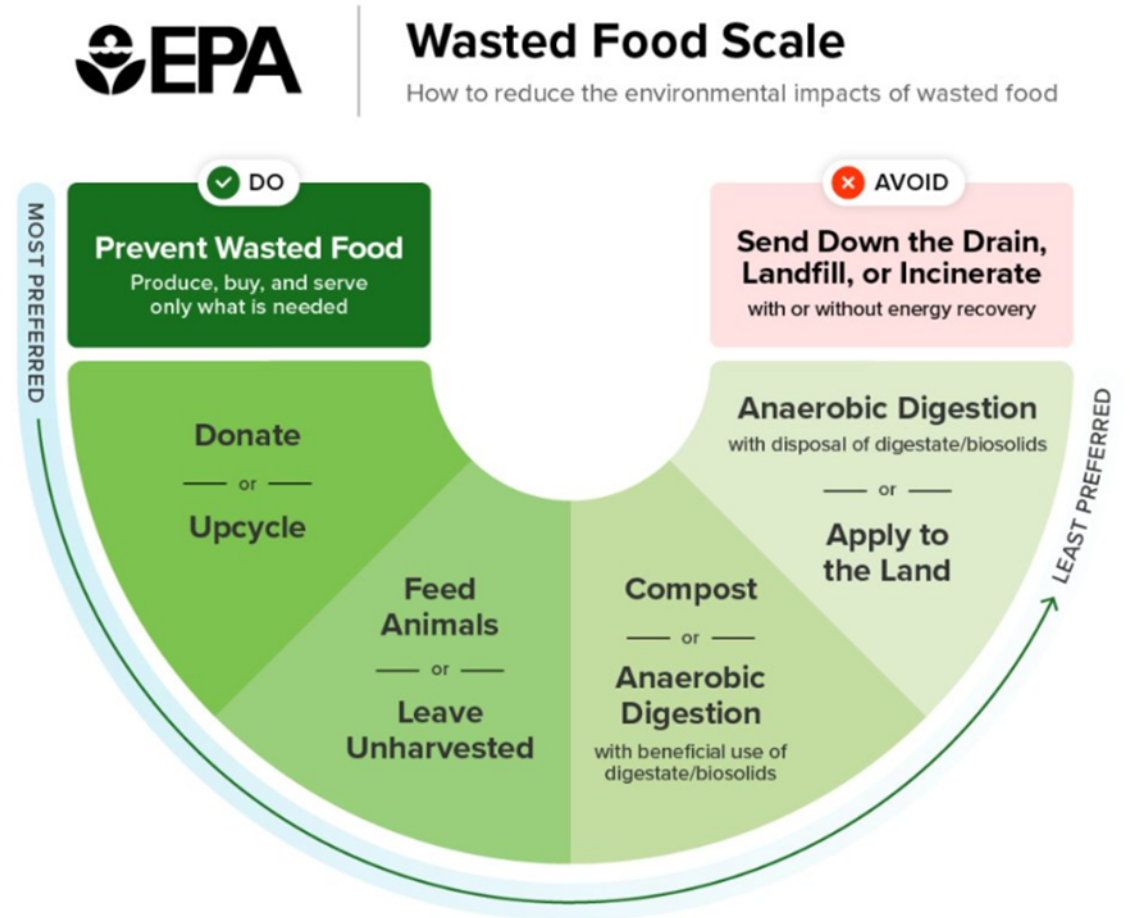
- Virginia received two grants:
 - Atlantic Conservation Coalition (VA, NC, SC & MD) - \$421M
 - **Priority Methane Reduction Projects in Virginia - \$99.9M**

Priority Methane Reduction Projects in Virginia

- Fugitive Coal Mine Methane Capture & Utilization (\$80.8M)
- Landfill Methane Capture & Utilization (\$9.6M)
- **Food Rescue & Composting (\$9.6M)**
 - \$8.8M will fund 15-20 competitive 3-year subawards
 - Estimated funding per award:
 - \$250k during year one
 - \$100k during years two and three

Food Rescue & Composting Subaward Program

- Competitive award process open to Virginia agencies, colleges and universities
- Each subaward will have two distinct funded program requirements:
 - Eligible Food Rescue Project
 - Food Waste Composting Project



Timeline

Fall 2024

- Hired a food waste specialist
- Conduct comprehensive study on current state of food waste

Fall 2025

- Launch program
- Release call for projects
- Select sub-awardees

May 2026

June 2026

- Project implementation
- DEQ holds quarterly virtual check-ins with awardees

June 2028

- Program evaluation
- Identify successes, challenges and opportunities for continued investment in GHG reduction

May 2030

Food Rescue & Composting Subaward Program

- Program will:
 - Support statewide education and engagement on the importance of food waste reduction
 - Provide opportunities for increased edible food rescue and food donation to food insecure communities
 - Reduce emissions associated with landfilled organic waste by diverting it from landfills
- Aims to inspire initiatives across the Commonwealth to reduce food waste, establishing replicable and scalable policies and designs that can be picked up by others

Next Steps

- Comprehensive Study on Food Waste in Virginia
 - Report will evaluate successful food rescue and composting programs in Virginia, while also discussing barriers to expansion
- Food Opportunities in Virginia Map
 - Resource that will map organizations and services relevant to food rescue and composting programs