



**REAPS**  
RECYCLING & ENVIRONMENTAL  
ACTION PLANNING SOCIETY

# Greening Your Office

...one tip at a time!

We care about the environment and we know you do too. Your office is a great place to make little changes that make a big difference. Here are some ideas to help you do just that. Provided monthly by R.E.A.P.S., we hope they inspire you to create change!

## GREEN TIP #150

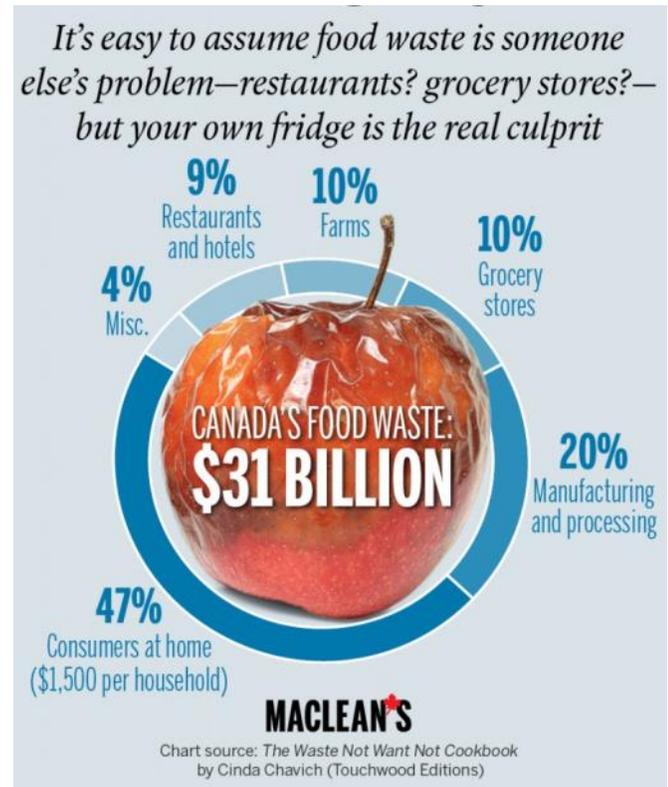
October 2022

Trying to reduce food waste in the workplace presents some unique challenges. A 2019 study found that over half of food produced in Canada is wasted, and approximately a third of that waste is edible and could be salvaged. Here are a few different ways that your workplace can reduce food waste.

**The Office Fridge** - The majority of food waste occurs after we bring our groceries home. Keeping the work fridge tidy and organized will help to make sure food isn't left behind to grow green forests of fuzz. Ask employees to label the containers they bring with their name and the date. Set up a rotating schedule to clear the fridge out weekly, sending food home to be eaten over the weekend. Designate a section of the fridge as the 'community shelf', where people can place food items that are free for the taking.

**Plan accordingly** - Whether planning a large banquet or a quiet staff lunch, planning ahead can help save food as well. Keep records of events to use when planning for the future, information such as number of attendees, amount of food ordered, and amount of food left can all help you to order exactly what you need in the future. Communicate with staff so they don't bring food when meals are being provided for by the company.

**Consider Composting!** - If your workplace produces a lot of coffee grounds, tea bags, raw fruit and vegetable scraps and has some green thumbs on staff, consider investing in a composter or vermicomposter. The food scraps go in and fertilizer comes out! Feel free to reach out to REAPS for advice if you think this is right for you workplace.



*Do you have any questions or suggestions? Call or email us at [green\\_solutions@reaps.org](mailto:green_solutions@reaps.org)!*