

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, estimates indicate that one-third of all food produced in the world is wasted, and in the United States, estimates show that 35 percent of food available went unsold or uneaten; and

WHEREAS, Washington generates an estimated 1.1 million tons of food waste annually, including 400,000 tons of edible food disposed of in the landfill; and

WHEREAS, food waste has significant climate impacts because the production, transportation, and handling of food generate significant carbon dioxide emissions, and when food ends up in landfills, it generates methane, which is a greenhouse gas even more potent than carbon dioxide; and

WHEREAS, Washington's climate and food waste reduction goals include the goal of reducing food waste by 50 percent by 2030; and

WHEREAS, reducing and preventing food waste can increase food security, foster improved productivity and economic efficiency in Washington's agricultural community, and promote resource and energy conservation; and

WHEREAS, preventing food waste is an invaluable way that people and businesses across Washington can reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions and make the best use of food grown and manufactured for human consumption;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 1-7, 2024, as

Food Waste Prevention Week

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 21st day of February, 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee

