

Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign

Invitation to Sign Food Wise Charter

The waste problem in Hong Kong is becoming increasingly severe. In 2022, we discarded about 1.51 kg of municipal solid waste per person per day, with food waste being the largest category at around 30%. Wasting food not only increases operational costs, but also wastes all the land, water resources, fertilizer and labour needed to grow food. If food waste is disposed of in landfills, it not only occupies valuable land resources but also emits greenhouse gases during the decomposition process. In fact, food waste is a reusable organic material that can be converted into useful resources through recycling. To realise the vision of sustainable development, we need to change the way we currently produce and consume natural resources, reduce food waste at source, and recycle unavoidable food waste for conversion into useful resources for the benefit of our community.

To implement the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government set up in December 2012 the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, chaired by the Secretary for Environment and Ecology, to implement the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign (the Campaign) to accomplish the below objectives:

- (i) Promote awareness of the community on the food waste management problems in Hong Kong in support of government policies to achieve the visions in the Waste Blueprint for Hong Kong 2035 and the target of attaining carbon neutrality before 2050;
- (ii) Encourage and facilitate the separation and collection of the unavoidable food waste to enhance recycling of resources and help achieve carbon neutrality target;
- (iii) Coordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction;
- (iv) Instill behavioural changes in the community at individual and household levels that will help reduce food waste generation
- (v) Draw up and promote good practices on food waste reduction of commercial and industrial establishments;
- (vi) Encourage leadership in the commercial, industrial and

community sectors to take action and share best practices;

- (vii) Facilitate food donation between the establishments with surplus food with charitable organizations in the community;
- (viii) Encourage avoidance of the use of disposable plastic tableware and reduction in food packaging.

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Your support is vital to the success of the Campaign in reducing and recycling food waste. We would like to invite your organisation to participate in the Campaign and become our “Food Wise Partner” by signing the “**Food Wise Charter**” attached in **Annex A** and commit to supporting activities in reducing food waste and promoting food waste recycling. Your efforts and contributions will be promulgated on our “Hong Kong Waste Reduction” official website for sharing with the wider community.

Please return the signed "Food Wise Charter" to the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign Secretariat:-

Address : Environmental Protection Department,
13/F, North Tower,
Tseung Kwan O Government Offices,
30 Tong Yin Street, Tseung Kwan O, Sai Kung,
New Territories
Tel : 3863 1317
Fax : 3153 2529
Email : foodwisehk@epd.gov.hk
Attention: Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign Secretariat

We sincerely hope that signees could provide feedback in due course by using the **Implementation Proforma of the Food Wise Charter** in **Annex B**, enabling us to understand the progress of your organisation's plans in reducing food waste and promoting food waste recycling. We hereby express our gratitude for your enduring support.

Should you have any enquiry, please feel free to contact the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign Secretariat.

Environment and Ecology Bureau

FOOD WISE CHARTER

Statement of Commitment

We understand and agree that –

- ✓ The waste problem in Hong Kong is becoming increasingly severe. We discarded about 1.51 kg of municipal solid waste per person per day.
- ✓ Food waste is the largest source of Hong Kong's municipal solid waste. In 2022, about 3,300 tonnes of food waste were disposed of at landfills every day, accounting for about 30% of municipal solid waste.
- ✓ Wasting food not only increases operational costs, but also wastes all the land, water resources, fertilizer and labour needed to grow food.
- ✓ Disposal of food waste in landfills not only occupies valuable land resources, it also emits greenhouse gases during the decomposition process. In fact, food waste is a reusable organic material that can be converted into useful resources through recycling.
- ✓ To realise the vision of sustainable development, we need to change the way we currently produce and consume our natural resources, reduce food waste at source, and recycle unavoidable food waste for conversion into useful resources for the benefit of our community.

Implementation

In order to contribute to reducing food waste from the community and promoting food waste recycling, we are committed to –

- ✓ Promoting best practices and behavioral changes to reduce food waste generation.
- ✓ Drawing up plans within our organizations to make relevant stakeholders

aware of and accept best practices in food waste reduction and recycling.

- ✓ Implementing plans with measurable targets to reduce food waste generation in our organisations and business settings.
- ✓ Encouraging and supporting organisational management to conduct in-house waste audits and to improve waste management performance based on the results and recommendations of the audits.
- ✓ Supporting the “Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign” and similar initiatives to encourage behavioral and cultural changes that engender respect for and cherishing of our food and natural resources.
- ✓ Advocating for and adopting recipes that make use of food trimmings.
- ✓ Supporting food donation activities.
- ✓ Promoting food waste recycling.

Signature:

Name:

Post Title:

Organisation (English):

(Chinese):

Date:

Contact Person	
Name:	
Address:	
Telephone No.:	
Email:	