

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Does the Food Bank of Delaware accept leftovers?

A: We cannot accept food that has been served or food deemed unsafe by our drivers and food safety staff. We collect good, unused, wholesome food that would otherwise be wasted from regulated food businesses.. We do not accept prepared food from private citizens.

Q: What about food safety?

A: Handling food safely is of paramount concern to the Food Bank of Delaware. Visit www.fbd.org to learn more about our Food Safety Guidelines for donations.

Q: Does the Food Bank of Delaware accept all kinds of food?

A: Yes, we accept fresh food, refrigerated and frozen food, dried foods, food in boxes, cans, and bottles, baby food and formula. The only food that we cannot accept is food that has been prepared at home, served or deemed unsafe by our staff.

Q: How can I package my donation?

A: Clear, food-grade bags.

Q: I'm throwing a catered event. Will the Food Bank be able to pick up any excess food?

A: Yes, we can pick up the chilled leftovers the next day.

Q: I'm usually very busy. Does donating take a lot of time?

A: In the time it takes to throw away excess food, you could package it for donation to the Food Bank of Delaware instead. We do all the paperwork and a receipt for your donation will be mailed to you.

Q: Who do I call to make a donation?

A. Call Charlotte McGarry, Logistics Director, at (302) 292-1305 ext 211.



14 Garfield Way
Newark, DE 19713
(302) 292-1305

1040 Mattlind Way
Milford, DE 19963
(302) 424-3301

www.fbd.org



**Food Bank of Delaware
Food Rescue Guidelines**

***A Community
Free From Hunger***

**14 Garfield Way
Newark, DE 19713
www.fbd.org**

Food Rescue

Did you know?

Americans throw out at least \$75 million worth of food each year? There are close to 35 million Americans at risk of going hungry? And here in Delaware there are close to 90,000?

In an effort to feed more Delawareans and to help alleviate the amount of food that is wasted, the Food Bank of Delaware has implemented a new Food Rescue Program. In Delaware alone 12 percent of waste is food. The program works on the simple premise that good food should not be wasted especially when there are close to 90,000 Delawareans at risk of going hungry.

Perishable and prepared foods are typically collected from:

- Restaurants
- Caterers
- Corporate Dining Rooms
- Hotels
- Other Food Establishments

Donating surplus food to food rescue organizations is safe, efficient and cost-effective. It reduces disposal costs, while helping to feed hungry Delawareans. And your donation is tax-deductible.

Whether your company would like to donate surplus food routinely or as it becomes available, we can ensure that your food gets to the people who need it the most. The vast majority of the rescued food is made up of meat, fresh produce and dairy, some of the most difficult food items to get into the diets of hungry Delawareans.

As a possible donor, here are some of the options you can consider:

- Scheduled daily/weekly/monthly pickups
- Occasional/on-call pickup for donors who have excess food less often than once a week
 - One-time-only pickup for donors who have minimum storage space

Pick-ups work in two ways:

1. Trained Food Bank of Delaware staff and volunteers will pick up your donation and deliver to one of our more than 350 feeding programs. Poundage will be tracked and the food industry company will be receipted.

2. A representative from the feeding program will pick up the food directly to bring back to their agency. Poundage will be tracked and the donor will be receipted.



Legal Issues: "I'm worried I'll get sued."

On the Federal level, the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act makes it easier for businesses to donate to food rescue programs. The act protects donors from liability when donating to nonprofit organizations and protects donors from civil and criminal liability should the product donated in good faith cause harm to the recipient. Delaware State Code also protects donors. Visit www.fbd.org/takeaction/FRlegalissues.htm.

Acceptable Food to Donate:

- Food from a regulated food company.
- Whole fresh produce without significant decay
- Chopped fresh produce packed separately in food-grade packaging
- Prepared foods chilled to 40 degrees F that have not been served or placed on a buffet
- Chilled perishable packaged foods such as juice and cheese in their original packaging
- Frozen or fresh meat, poultry and fish
- Dairy products 40 degrees F to expiration date
- Shelled eggs
- Frozen foods in original packaging
- Baked goods (day-old bread, bagels and other bakery items)
- Canned and packaged goods in original package

We are unable to accept:

- Food that is not from a regulated food company.
- Home prepared food
- Stale bread or baked goods
- Foods that have been served or put on a buffet
- Foods that have been previously reheated
- Foods that have been kept in the temperature danger zone for more than 2 hours
- Foods with damaged or compromised packaging, resulting in the loss of a sanitary barrier protection
- Produce with significant decay
- Frozen foods with freezer burn
- Sushi or any seafood intended for raw consumption
- Open, punctured, bulging or seriously damaged canned goods
- Any food containing alcohol