

# Climate Resilient Menu for Wisconsin Communities: Food and Agricultural Systems

Students: Danielle Brosend, Gregory Peterson

Mentors: Dr. Anna Haines and Dr. Shiba Kar

## Abstract

The Resilient Wisconsin Menu (RWM) project is a framework for Wisconsin communities to utilize in order to enhance resilience to the impacts from climate change. Using a lens of equity and culture, the RWM will be organized into the following themes that contribute to community resilience: food and agricultural systems, built and natural environment, and energy systems. The RWM begins with a self-assessment for communities to identify strengths and gaps in local systems and guides communities to resilience and preparedness concepts and actions. Each RWM offers flexible approaches that allow decision-makers to select strategies for a customized resilience response that makes sense for their community's unique environment, culture, and economy. This poster presents the Food and Agriculture menu. We have used resources from around the state and nation to compile a menu of strategies in the following areas: soil and water management, farm energy systems, food availability, food waste management, and climate-and-farm-friendly food systems. The RWM will be distributed through UW-Madison Extension.

## Assessment

- 5 general questions
- 15 food systems questions
- 10 agricultural systems questions
- Results lead to the menu

## Menu

- Diversity, Inclusivity, and Equity Considerations
- Appetizers - Educational/Outreach Strategies
- Lighter Fare - Strategies with Low Costs
- Entrées - Strategies with Higher Costs
- Desserts – Celebrating/Maintain Momentum
- Drinks - Financial Resources

## Food Systems Focuses

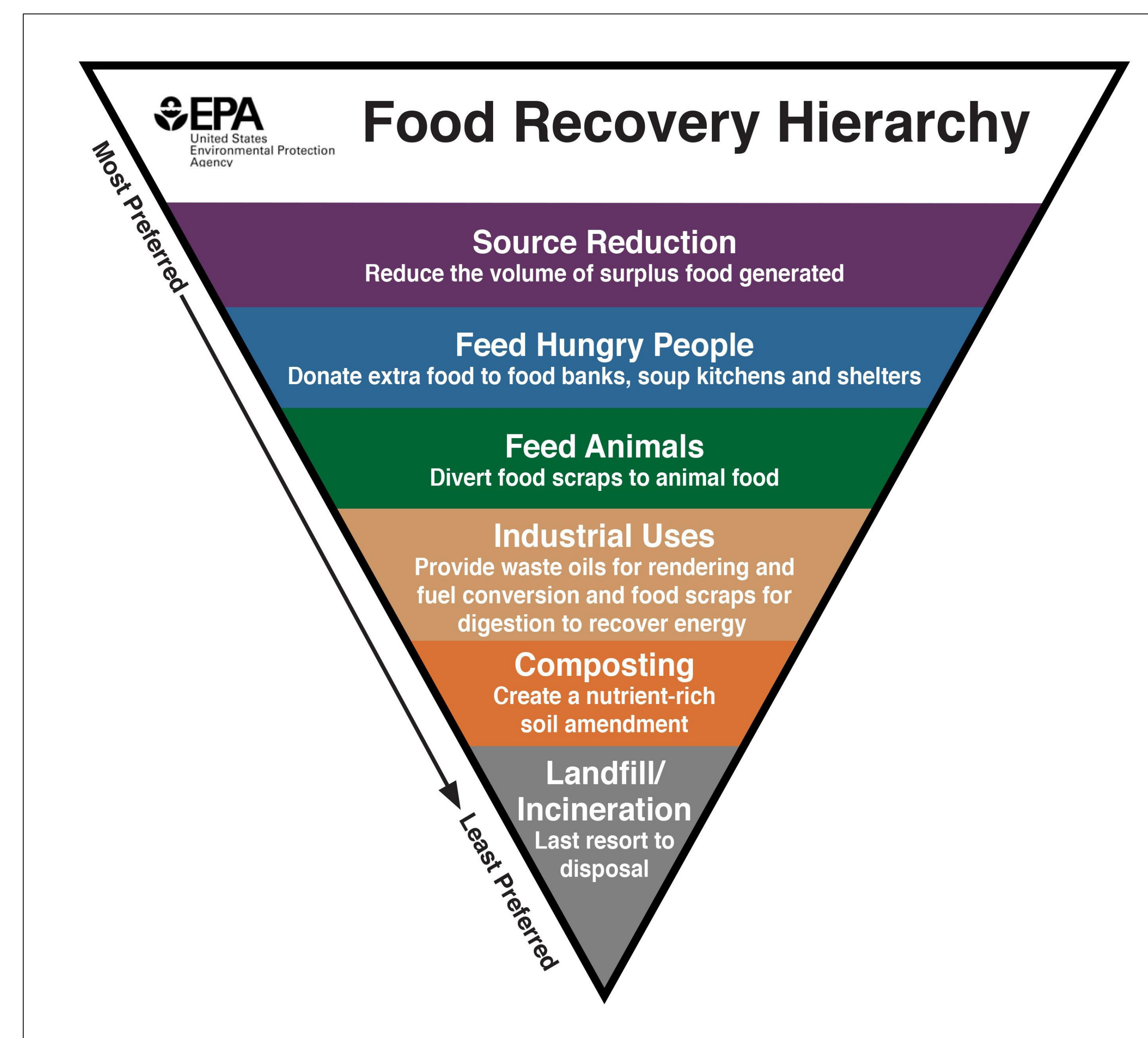
- Food Availability
- Food Waste Management
- Climate-and-farm-friendly Food Systems

## Agricultural Systems Focuses

- Soil and Water Management
- Energy Systems

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to Diane Mayerfeld, Catherine Techtmann, and Sarah Chisholm for their collaboration on this project.



**Figure 1.** Environmental Protection Agency Food Recovery Hierarchy – food waste management guidelines

## Results and Next Steps

The RWM is being alpha-tested through UWSP student use with local communities in mind. Their feedback will be used to revise the RWM. The process to make the RWM available through its own website is underway by UW- Madison Extension. The Extension will also be distributing the RWM through “Train the Trainer” workshops.



**Figure 2.** Created by Background Stories for Green Lands Blue Waters & Midwest Perennial Forage Working Group – benefits of soil management