

From: [REDACTED]

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Subject: Climate Change policies

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Dear Councilmembers:

A recent article in the Washington Post made me more aware than ever of the horrible carbon footprint of food waste:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-solutions/2021/02/25/climate-curious-food-waste/>. I know that we do quite a bit in Maryland and Montgomery County to combat climate change, but here are some ideas from the article about Vermont. I'm sending to you in case it sparks ideas of what else we might be able to do locally:

"*In Vermont*, which adopted a [universal recycling law](#) in 2012, the state food bank saw donations triple after big waste generators were barred from throwing out uneaten food'. Last summer, the program expanded to cover all residents, making Vermont the first state in the country to mandate that food waste be separated from other trash. Waste haulers are required to provide pickup services for those who aren't able to compost at home. Some towns and cities also sell food waste to [anaerobic digesters](#), which turn organic matter into biogas that can fuel power plants as well as solid byproducts that can be turned into fertilizer, construction material and animal bedding. Meanwhile, major food manufacturers have inked contracts to turn materials that don't meet standards and leftover fry oil into high-energy animal feed."

Thanks for your good work!

Linda

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