



# Proclamation

## FOOD WASTE PREVENTION WEEK

**WHEREAS**, over one-third of the food produced in the United States is never eaten; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina residents generated about 3.5 billion pounds of food waste in 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, food is the single largest category of material placed in municipal landfills and municipal landfills are the third-largest source of human-related methane emissions in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Orange County's 2017 waste audit showed 25.3% of Orange County municipal solid waste was food waste and the Town of Carrboro's 2016 waste audit showed that waste from single-family homes was 28.2% food waste; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina ranks tenth in the nation for food insecurity (fifth for seniors and twelfth for children), particularly among minority and low-income populations; and

**WHEREAS**, Orange County's 2019 Community Health Assessment reports there are more than 18,000 food insecure individuals, including 4,420 children in Orange County; and

**WHEREAS**, a family of four can save an average of \$1,800 annually on uneaten food; and

**WHEREAS**, preventing and reducing food waste presents opportunities to increase food security for all, foster productivity and economic efficiency, preserve our natural resources, promote energy conservation, and address climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, preventing food waste will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support Carrboro's *Community Climate Action Plan* goal for the Town and community to reduce 2010 levels of greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2030; and

**WHEREAS**, reducing food-related greenhouse gas emissions is integral to meeting the goals of the Carrboro Connects comprehensive plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Damon Seils, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 10<sup>th</sup> – April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to be Food Waste Prevention Week in Carrboro and urge all citizens to commit to reducing food waste.

This the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

*Damon Seils*

Damon Seils, Mayor

