

# Proclamation

## FOOD WASTE PREVENTION WEEK

WHEREAS, over one-third of the food produced in the United States is never eaten; 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, North Carolina residents generated about 2.70 million tons of food waste in 2021; 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 9 in food insecurity, approximately 11.8% of North Carolina's population, about 1.2 million people experience food insecurity, particularly among minority and low-income populations; and

WHEREAS, according to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, there are almost 15,000 food insecure people in Orange County in 2022, including 2,600 children.

WHEREAS, a family of four spends an average of \$1,500 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 and reducing food-related greenhouse gas emissions are integral to meeting goals in the Carrboro Connects comprehensive plan and Carrboro's *Community Climate Action Plan* goal for the Town and community to reduce 2010 levels of greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2030" and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara Foushee, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 1<sup>st</sup> – April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to be Food Waste Prevention Week in Carrboro and urge all citizens to commit to reducing food waste.

This the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2024.

  
Barbara M. Foushee

