

FOOD WASTE REGULATIONS  
INFORMATION SESSION  
13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010



# SUMMARY OF FOOD WASTE REGULATIONS

## **Introduction:**

- **Commercial Sector**
- **Enacted from 1 July 2010**
- **Apply to all major producers of food waste**
- **Major producers of food waste must segregate food waste & ensure that it does not go to landfill**



# WHO DO THE REGULATIONS APPLY TO?

- Shops and Supermarkets
- Restaurants
- Hotels
- Guesthouses
- Public Houses
- Cafes
- Canteens
- Nursing Homes
- Hospitals
- State Buildings
- Hot Food Outlets
- Office Buildings



# EXEMPTION FOR SMALL WASTE PRODUCERS – 50KG

- If you produce less than 50kg of food waste per week, you can get an exemption from the Regulations until July 2011
- **But.... You have to write to the local authority to get this exemption**



# HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU PRODUCE?

## ○ Generally

- Rule of thumb if you produce  
3 x 240 ltr bins of general waste you most likely produce more than 50kgs per week



# BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY

**Food waste arising on your premises is:**

- Source segregated
- Kept separate from other waste and contaminants



# BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY

**Once segregated, the food waste must be:**

- a. Collected by waste collector and taken to a “food waste recycling plant” (e.g. composting plant)
- b. Treated on site (e.g. composting unit)
- c. Taken directly by the food producer to a food waste recycling plant



## WASTE COLLECTOR RESPONSIBILITY

- Must not collect landfill waste from any obligated commercial premises if it contains food waste
- Inform the local authority of any obligated commercial premises refusing to use a brown bin service
- Ensure food waste goes through an authorised treatment process





# AUTHORISED TREATMENT PROCESS

- Composting plants
- Anaerobic digestion plants
- Rendering plants
- Pet food plants
- Other processed approved by EPA (case by case basis)



# ENFORCEMENT OF THE REGULATIONS

- Enforced by each Local Authority
- Local Authority has powers (under Waste Management Act) for power of entry, waste management report requests etc.
- EPA can ask waste contractors for information on food waste collected, transferred, treated, recovered or disposed



## COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

- Non-compliance is an offence
- Owner and tenant of a premises are both responsible
- €3,000 (max) at District court or 12 months in Prison (or both)
- €15m on indictment or 5 years in Prison (or both)



# GOOD FOOD WASTE MANAGEMENT

**Small bin in Kitchen**



**Wheelie Bin in Yard**



# BENEFITS OF FOOD WASTE SEGREGATION

- Quantify what food waste you dispose off
  - Fresh food cost
  - Storage and management of food
  - Disposal cost
  - Staff time
- Look at ways where you could reduce your food waste and save money
- Improve your environmental performance



# FOOD WASTE PREVENTION

- Check portion control
- Only buy in what you need
- Have an appropriate reuse procedures in place
- Vacuum pack leftover food
- Quantify food per serving
- Look on food waste as a large cost to your business



# WHAT MAKES UP FOOD WASTE COSTS?

- There are a number of costs that you must include when estimating the cost of disposing of food waste:
  - • The initial purchase cost of raw ingredients
  - • The cost of transporting food
  - • The cost of storing the food
  - • The cost of preparing and cooking the food
  - • The cost of disposing food waste



# COST

- Remember each kg of food waste cost between €2 - €3





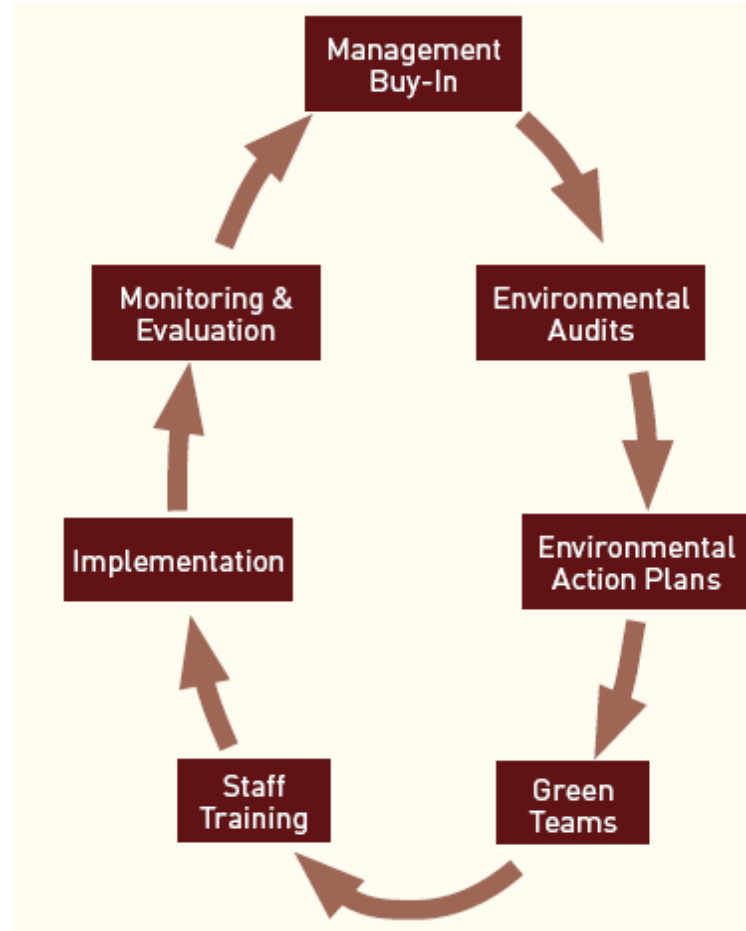
## SUMMARY

- Major producers of food waste affected on 1 July 2010
- Exemption for producers of less than 50kg until July 2011
- Food waste must be segregated and treated on site or in authorised treatment plant

**[www.foodwaste.ie](http://www.foodwaste.ie)**



# PREVENT FOOD WASTE



**Changing Behaviour –  
Saving Resources**

**Thank You.**

