Food Waste Reduction and Tracking Apps

There are seemingly infinite mobile and web applications available for individuals and organizations to help them connect excess donatable and edible food to individuals or organizations searching for it. The list below can be used as a helpful reference, but readers should perform their own due diligence before agreeing to work with any of them.

Applications for Individuals (All have Business registrations, too)

Name	Website	App stores	Available where?	Cost	Recently updated?	Rating (out of 5 on the Apple App Store)
Flashfood	www.flashfood.com	Google, Apple	U.S. & Canada	In-app purchases	Yes	4.8 (20,396 ratings)
Description: Helps users find discounted food nearing its "best before date". Works by letting users browse and purchase discounted food from grocery stores and other retailers. Pay for purchases in the app with any major credit card, VISA debit card, or SNAP EBT card.						
Too Good To Go	www.toogoodtogo.com	Google, Apple, Huawei	North America & Europe	In-app purchases	Yes	4.9 (96,585 ratings)
Description: International app that helps users find surprise bags of food from local restaurants and shops, and individuals purchase discounted food. Four million+ users and ten thousand+ active businesses on the app.						

Apps for Organizations

Name	Website	App stores	Available where?	Cost	Recently updated?	Rating (out of 5 on the Apple App Store)
Spoiler Alert	www.spoileralert.com	Online only	U.S. & Canada	Subscription Fee	Yes	N/A
Description: An application that allows food producers, wholesale, and retail distributors to manage unsold inventory to enhance food recovery and waste diversion efforts and enables real-time food donations and discounted sales.						
Careit	www.careit.com	Google, Apple	U.S. & Canada	Free	Yes	4.6 (10 ratings)
Description: - Food donation and rescue software for businesses and institutions to donate surplus food and goods directly to local nonprofits. A tool for governments to easily track food donation data across geography-specific areas. This tool meets the specific requirements for California's new SB 1383 policy. Donating and rescuing food on the Careit app is free for every business and nonprofit registered in the US and Canada. Also, it offers in-person and virtual workshops to train new users on safely donating food and using the Careit app. Donation details are available for download in real-time for Municipal Executive Careit account holders. Conduct inspections, track compliance, generate reports, and instantly prove capacity in one account. Counties or groups of municipalities can share data across borders.						

Name	Website	App stores	Available where?	Cost	Recently updated?	Rating (out of 5 on the Apple App Store)
Food Rescue US	www.foodrescue.us	Online only	24 states & DC	N/A	N/A	N/A
Description: Volunteers transfer fresh food surpluses from local businesses to social service agencies serving the food insecure—42 locations in 24 states and DC. Download the app and sign up to deliver food from local businesses to social service agencies.						
MealConnect	www.mealconnect.org	Google, Apple	U.S.	Free	Yes	3.9 (13 ratings
Description: A nationwide application by Feeding America (feedingamerica.org) that allows organizations to put food up for donation; the donation information is sent to a non-profit partner, and the non-profit then uses its services to pick up and distribute food.						
Food Donation Connection	www.foodtodonate.com	Online only	U.S.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Description: Since 1992, Food Donation Connection has assisted food service companies with developing and implementing Harvest Programs designed to provide an alternative to discarding surplus food. Links food service donors with surplus food to local hunger relief agencies by creating and maintaining a communication and reporting network connecting those in need through existing charitable organizations.						
Goodr	www.goodr.co	Google, Apple	U.S.	Free	Yes	4.5 (17 ratings)
Description: For businesses to donate surplus food that would otherwise be thrown out, gain tax deductions, and track it in real-time. The company has drivers/logistics to pick up and deliver food to partners. It also provides organic and typical waste recycling: "We can provide a full overhaul of your current waste solution to add new recycling streams, including procuring bins, education, training programs, and hauling all waste."						
MEANS Database	www.meansdatabase.org	Online only	U.S.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Description: MEANS (Matching Excess and Needs for Stability) is a nationwide online platform connecting those with excess food, like grocery stores, co-ops, and restaurants, with nearby emergency food providers who serve those in need. Food businesses sign up as donors and create a post whenever they have extra food available. When nonprofit users sign up, they tell where they are and what food they need. When any food donation fitting those parameters becomes available on the system, users get an email or SMS text message about it. If interested, they can claim the donation, and they receive the donor's contact information, and the donor receives the contact information of the nonprofit to coordinate delivery. MEANS does not currently allow individuals to post donations.						
Food Connect	FoodConnectGroup.com	Google, Apple	7 US States	Free	Yes	4.7 (12 ratings)
Description: A licensed food vendor schedules a pickup through the phone app or website by selecting a time frame that works. Food vendors package the food, and then Food Connect's drivers pick it up and deliver it to a local meal site, food pantry, food bank, or community shelter. Accepts perishable meal donations from licensed food vendors only; individuals can donate canned foods or dry goods using the app.						