



# GETTING TO ZERO WASTE RESOURCE GUIDE

OCTOBER 2018

**@UNIONSQUARENY**  
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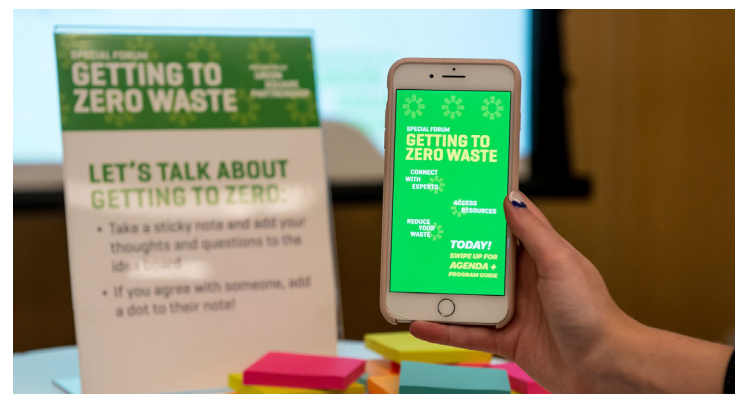
# INTRODUCTION

Keeping Union Square's streets, park, and public spaces clean and beautiful has been a core role for the Union Square Partnership since we were established over forty years ago. We are undertaking initiatives to reduce waste and improve recycling in our district's public spaces. However, realizing the City's ambitious goal of sending zero waste to landfill by 2030 will require everyone to take action.

Earlier this year, the Union Square Partnership launched a series of efforts to build a more sustainable future for the Union Square-14th Street neighborhood. As part of our sustainability initiatives, we are committed to supporting our local businesses and property owners in their own efforts to improve waste reduction, recycling, composting, and more.







The **Union Square Partnership's Zero Waste Resource Guide** catalogs over thirty service providers, City agencies, and free resources that work with businesses and nonprofits across sectors to improve waste diversion. Solutions included in this guide range from composting pick-up and sustainability-focused waste haulers to packaging solutions and specialized materials disposal. While by no means comprehensive, we hope that this Guide will serve as a helpful place to start as you explore which solutions may best address the waste challenges your organization is facing.











Thank you to all the organizations who provided information on their services and solutions. We will update this Guide on a periodic basis. If you would like your organization to be included in future iterations, please email [info@unionsquarenyc.org](mailto:info@unionsquarenyc.org). We look forward to supporting your efforts to achieve zero waste in your restaurants, offices, operations, and buildings!



The Union Square Partnership works to ensure the community's continued growth and success by providing public safety, sanitation, economic development, and marketing services, and by investing in the beautification of Union Square Park. For more information, visit [unionsquarenyc.org](http://unionsquarenyc.org).

# RESOURCE PROVIDERS

Organization Overview	Contact	Services
<p><b>32BJ Training Fund</b></p>  <p>The 32BJ Training Fund is a joint labor-management partnership that offers training to eligible participants at no cost. The fund is supported by contributions negotiated between 32BJ SEIU and participating employers. Our mission is to train every participant to grow to the next level. We want to continually raise the standards of our industry by providing 32BJ members with the tools they need to meet the challenges of a changing industry.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality</p>	<p>training@32bjfunds.com 888-284-3225 training.32bjfunds.org/ en-us/newyorkhome.aspx</p>	
<p><b>BioHiTech Global</b></p>  <p>BioHiTech Global [NASDAQ: BHTG] provides food service operators with a cost-effective solution for food waste disposal using a proven environmentally favorable pathway [University of Delaware Lifecycle Assessment of BioHiTech Digester for Food Waste Management: August 1, 2018]. Our on-site aerobic digestion technology addresses food waste at the point of generation, reducing pest infestation and eliminating costly pickup and landfill disposal, while complying with DSNY regulations. Our equipment &amp; cloud-based weighting technology provides the data and the solution food service operators need as NYC heads towards its goal of zero waste by 2030.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Geraldine Smith gsmith@biohitech.com 917-613-6227 biohitech.com</p>	
<p><b>Cafeteria Culture</b></p>  <p>Cafeteria Culture [CafCu] is an environmental education and advocacy organization, working creatively to achieve zero-waste schools, climate smart communities, and plastic free waters. We foster youth-led solutions on critical sustainability issues by merging citizen science and civic action with video production and the arts. Our students, overwhelmingly from low-income communities of color, are providing an urgently needed voice in NYC's environmental movement.</p> <p>Customers served: Institutions</p>	<p>Debby Lee Cohen DL@cafeteriaculture.org 917-282-0253 cafeteriaculture.org</p>	

-  Waste Recycling/Carting Services
-  Waste Audit/Consulting/Regulatory Compliance
-  Education/Technology Solutions
-  Packaging
-  Textile Recycling
-  Composting Collection/Processing
-  Construction & Demolition Waste Collection/Processing
-  Food Waste Prevention/Recovery
-  E-Waste
-  Bin/Infrastructure

# RESOURCE PROVIDERS

## Organization Overview

## Contact

## Services

### Carpet Cycle



Our mission at CarpetCycle is a simple one: find uses for post-consumer carpet and divert a valuable non-degradable/renewable resource from landfills. Since our inception, in 1999, we've propelled this mission by providing services to safely remove, collect and recycle commercial and residential carpet and post-consumer building materials (including; ceiling tiles, gypsum wallboard, fluorescent lights and VCT floor tile). CarpetCycle's newest venture Quiet-Tech is a recycled acoustic insulation product made of 85-90% recycled carpet, cotton, and PET fibers. It is designed and manufactured in New Jersey (within 10 miles of New York City).

info@carpetcycle.com  
973-732-4858  
carpetcycle.com



Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions

### Celestial Solutions



Celestial Solutions offers zero waste consulting and support. Whether you are a small business, corporation, or individual, Celeste can work with you to come up with strategies to help you save money while reducing your environmental impact. As an experienced project manager, Celeste can target benchmarks to success and assemble a team however big or small to ensure your vision is carried out. With a varied background in architecture, green building, waste reduction, composting, and permaculture, Celeste can help you achieve your goals.

Celeste McMickle  
celeste@celestial.solutions  
646-416-0181  
www.celestial.solutions



Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Institutions

### CITIBIN



Outdoor storage is our specialty. CITIBIN waste enclosures sort recyclables and conceal trash, while adding curb appeal. Created as a durable and attractive alternative to low-grade outdoor enclosures on the market, CITIBIN is made of aluminum and recycled bamboo composite, and offers a five-year warranty.

Liz Picarazzi  
liz@citibin.com  
347-549-4121  
citibin.com



Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions



Waste Recycling/Carting Services



Waste Audit/Consulting/Regulatory Compliance



Education/Technology Solutions



Packaging



Textile Recycling



Composting Collection/Processing



Construction & Demolition Waste Collection/Processing



Food Waste Prevention/Recovery











E-Waste













Bin/Infrastructure













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<p><b>City Harvest</b></p>  <p>City Harvest helped start the food rescue movement in 1982 when a group of New Yorkers saw that New York City had an abundance of excess food even while a large number of its residents struggled to feed themselves and their families. Today, City Harvest is New York City's largest food rescue organization, helping to feed the more than 1.2 million New Yorkers who are struggling to put meals on their tables. We deliver rescued food, free of charge, to hundreds of food pantries, soup kitchens and other community partners across the five boroughs.</p> <p>Customers served: Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>fooddonations@cityharvest.org 646-412-0758 cityharvest.org</p>	
<p><b>Commit to Green</b></p>  <p>Commit to Green™ manufactures compostable products. It was founded on the belief that smart designs that are effectively applied to the right medium can raise environmental awareness in our communities. Our unique products help educate consumers on the importance of responsible waste management that greens our garbage and keeps our landfills' growth in check.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Shien-ru Tsao srt@committogreen.com 646-490-6330 committogreen.com</p>	 
<p><b>Common Ground Compost</b></p>  <p>Common Ground Compost develops composting, recycling, and waste reduction systems for businesses, ranging from hotels and office buildings to small cafes and residential buildings. We audit waste, train staff, design custom signage, help procure waste infrastructure, develop standard operating procedures, assist with commercial waste hauling negotiations and contracts, and more.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Meredith Danberg-Ficarelli meredith@commongroundcompost.com 929-229-5810 commongroundcompost.com</p>	 











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<p><b>Cooper Recycling</b></p> 	<p>Cooper Recycling operates the largest construction and demolition debris recycling facility in NYC, with capacity to process 2,000 tons per day and recycle 95% of incoming material to beneficial end uses. Cooper Recycling is the only facility in NY that is certified by the Recycling Certification Institute. We provide LEED reporting services and are the only facility in NYC that qualifies projects for a bonus LEED point under LEED v4. Cooper Recycling has been operating in Brooklyn since 1986 and is a privately held, woman-owned, family-operated business with MWBE certification from NYC.</p>	<p>Ray Kvedaras rkvedaras@coopertank.com 718-384-7727 coopertankrecycling.com</p>	
<p><b>Department of Sanitation (DSNY)</b></p> 	<p>The NYC Department of Sanitation is the world's largest sanitation department. DSNY collects more than 10,500 tons of residential and institutional garbage and 1,760 tons of the recyclables each day. While efficiently managing solid waste and clearing litter or snow from 6,300 miles of streets, the Department is also a leader in environmentalism, committing to sending zero waste to landfills by 2030. The Commercial Programs Team provides information on the commercial rules that all NYC businesses must follow.</p>	<p>The Commercial Programs Team commercialprograms@dsny.nyc.gov nyc.gov/dsny</p>	     
<p><b>EcoRich LLC</b></p> 	<p>EcoRich Elite II food waste composters are self-contained on-site aerobic digesters that use bacterium, heat and fresh air in a controlled environment to compost food waste at the source, transforming it into a nutrient-rich soil amendment in just 24 hours. EcoRich offers 20 lb to 2500 lb per day machines and it has over 200 units currently working around the world and 7 in the USA. EcoRich offers solution for local governments, schools, colleges, hospitals and the restaurant and catering sector. Our machines are a proven to reduce the cost, disposal, transport, and environmental problems presented by food waste.</p>	<p>Manish Desai manish.desai@ecorichenv.com 973-453-1263 ecorichenv.com</p>	 
<p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Institutions</p>			
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<p><b>EcoSafe Zero Waste</b></p> 	<p>EcoSafe offers complete “turn-key” solutions for the collection of Organics and Recyclables in commercial, institutional, and residential environments. Utilizing simple but effective tools, our Support Reps ensure our clients have the support they require to make recycling easy and efficient for employees, employers and their customers. The programs are cost effective, comply with local regulations and designed to support local processors. EcoSafe systems have proven to greatly reduce contamination in both the Organics and Recycling streams that result in higher rates of diversion and lower costs. Customized signage and outreach materials, supported with an online Resource Center and mobile APP, help guide our customers and their staff through every step in the process.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>info@ecosafezerowaste.com ecosafezerowaste.com</p>	   
<p><b>FABSCRAP</b></p> 	<p>FABSCRAP is a nonprofit rethinking textile waste, providing pickup of unwanted fabrics from NYC businesses and engaging the local creative community in reuse. Recycling and reuse service is provided to clothing brands, fashion designers, costumer designers, interior designers, cutting rooms, tailors, and any other businesses creating textile waste. Fabric scraps can be purchased on our website or at pop-up sales.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Institutions</p>	<p>Anne Keating annie@fabscrap.org 929-276-3188 fabscrap.org</p>	 
<p><b>Food Bank For New York City</b></p> 	<p>The Food Bank’s mission is to end hunger by organizing food, information and support for community survival, empowerment, and dignity. Food Bank For New York City has been working to end food poverty in our five boroughs for 35 years. As the city’s largest hunger-relief organization, we employ a multifaceted approach centered on helping low-income New Yorkers overcome their circumstances and achieve greater independence.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>https://www.foodbanknyc.org/contact-us/ 212-566-7855 foodbanknyc.org</p>	

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<p><b>Food Waste Experts</b></p> 	<p>Food Waste Experts provides consulting services implementing cutting edge sustainable solutions to universities, colleges, schools, hotels, nursing homes, corporate cafeterias, hospitals, supermarkets, prisons, among other organizations. Our expert consultants will solve your operation’s food waste problems. Implement our onsite solutions and save money while helping to divert food waste from landfills, and therefore reducing the levels of greenhouse gas emissions. We understand each site is different, with its own nuances and challenges, and therefore we select the ideal solution that is customized to each site’s needs.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Marvin info@foodwastexperts.com 212-729-0757 foodwastexperts.com</p>	
<p><b>Foodprint Group</b></p> 	<p>Foodprint Group helps food and hospitality operations design Zero Waste into their buildings and people processes. By reducing waste and improving recycling, we help clients meet regulatory requirements, save money and achieve corporate sustainability goals. We offer customized waste reduction and recycling programs, waste assessments, hauler selection and support, environmentally preferred purchasing support, carbon and cost analysis, and evaluation of onsite technologies.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>christina@foodprintgroup.com foodprintgroup.com</p>	
<p><b>Great Forest, Inc.</b></p> 	<p>Great Forest is a leader in sustainable waste management, having pioneered some of the first corporate sustainability programs in the country. We are backed by 30 years of experience, industry knowledge and relationships. Great Forest works with clients nationwide to achieve Zero Waste. Our customized programs manage waste and recycling for small or large organizations, in one or multiple locations across portfolios, including nationwide corporate chains. Great Forest’s core expertise in sustainable waste management solutions is supported by a comprehensive range of additional services that work that work symbiotically to support all sustainability goals.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Joe Romuno jromuno@greatforest.com 212-779-4757 greatforest.com</p>	 











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<b>LeanPath</b> 	<p>LeanPath is the leading global provider of integrated hardware and software solutions for culinary institutions. Our vision is to ensure a sustainable future by eliminating global food waste, and our mission is to make food waste prevention and measurement everyday practice in the world’s kitchens. As we know, what organizations measure, they manage. Our high-tech products, coupled with our coaching process, address the high amount/cost of food waste in culinary organizations, especially with the front-line kitchen workers. By consistently tracking all food waste transactions with LeanPath products, we empower organizations to measure and analyze their food waste – and then make the necessary operational changes to not only reduce it, but to prevent it in the future.</p> <p>Customers served: Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Steven Finn            sfinn@leanpath.com            215-208-5416            leanpath.com</p>	
<b>LES Ecology Center</b> 	<p>The LES Ecology Center has pioneered community-based urban sustainability programs since 1987, and offers e-waste and composting services, environmental stewardship opportunities and educational programming. We offer opportunities to all New Yorkers to learn about environmental issues and play an active role in creating a healthier and greener New York City.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Christine Datz-Romero            christine@lesecologycenter.org            212-477-4022            lesecologycenter.org</p>	
<b>Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board (MSWAB)</b> 	<p>The Manhattan Solid Waste Advisory Board [MSWAB] is a volunteer citizens’ advisory board, comprised of the waste management industry, consultants, sustainability professionals, and concerned citizens, appointed by the Manhattan Borough President’s Office, dedicated to helping NYC achieve its zero waste goals. We advise the Manhattan Borough President, City Council, City Administration and others on policies and programs regarding the development, promotion and operation of the City’s waste prevention, reuse and recycling programs. We produce the NYC Community Composting Grant and the NYC Reuse and Repair Grant, hold monthly meetings, provide information online about waste reduction and diversion in NYC, and have a number of active committees, all of which are open to the public.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>manhattanswab1@gmail.com            manhattanswab.org</p>	

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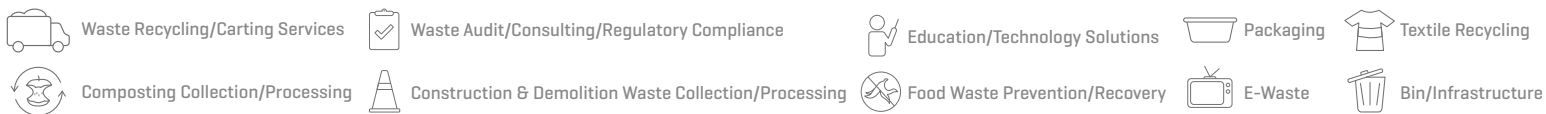
Organization	Overview	Contact	Services
<p><b>The Materials Center</b></p> <p>The <b>MATERIALS</b> Center</p>	<p>The Materials Center is a community resource that houses a large collection of “found” materials, gathered and donated by NYC residents and businesses. These materials are objects from our everyday lives that are often discarded, but could be repurposed or transformed into something new, encouraging creativity, problem solving, and action. To enhance and enrich children’s learning, creative expression, and symbolic development. The Materials Center is run by Teaching Beyond the Square, a donateNYC partner organization that works to divert waste from landfills, by recycling, re-purposing, re-using or re-distributing items.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Wendy Gelsanliter Wendy@TeachingBeyondtheSquare.org 212-460-5901 teachingbeyondthesquare.org/the-materials-center/</p>	
<p><b>Mr. T Carting</b></p> 	<p>Mr. T Carting Corporation is a family owned and operated private recycling and waste management business servicing commercial and residential customers in NYC. We’ve been keeping NYC clean since 1947. Our vision is to raise the standard of excellence in the recycling and waste management industry, provide solutions that exceed expectations, benefit our customers, and protect the environment. We have thrived through commitment to innovation, safety and our core values. We don’t just haul trash that adds to landfills. We’re environmentally conscious and technologically inclined, with our own recycling, sorting, processing and vehicle maintenance facilities.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Adam Mitchell amitchell@mrtcarting.com 718-303-3278 mrtcarting.com</p>	
<p><b>NYC Business Integrity Commission</b></p> 	<p>BIC is both a law enforcement and regulatory agency, responsible for regulating the trade waste industry and the City’s public wholesale markets, among other things. BIC’s mission includes the elimination of organized crime and other forms of corruption and criminality from those industries, ensuring that the businesses licensed or registered in those industries and their owners and employees possess good character, honesty and integrity, and maintaining an open and competitive environment in which the regulated businesses operate.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Salvador Arrona SArrona@bic.nyc.gov 212-437-0523 www1.nyc.gov/site/bic/index.page</p>	

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<p><b>Reclaimed Organics</b></p> 	<p>Reclaimed Organics is a bike-powered compost collection program operating in Manhattan. We service small food businesses, cafes, offices, and commercial office buildings through a set of services that include onsite collection services during regular M-F business hours, staff training and education, assistance renegotiating commercial waste hauling bills, and consulting services related to waste management operations in commercial buildings.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality</p>	<p>Gwen Ossenfort Gwen@reclaimedorganics.org 347-395-6377 ReclaimedOrganics.org</p>	   
<p><b>Recycle Track Systems</b></p> 	<p>RTS is changing the way companies manage waste and recycling by combining technology with high-touch service to make disposal easier, smarter and more responsible. From on-demand removal to fully integrated waste management solutions, RTS helps clients easily track and optimize their pickups. Using data insight, RTS empowers customers with visibility into their waste habits and tangible figures on their climate impact to improve their waste and recycling practices.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions, Stadium and event venues</p>	<p>Shannon Bergstrom shannon@rts.com 646-876-4895 rts.com</p>	        
<p><b>ReFED</b></p> 	<p>ReFED is a nonprofit committed to reducing food waste in the United States with a vision to increase economic opportunity, food access, and environmental sustainability. In 2016, ReFED published the Roadmap to Reduce U.S. Food Waste by 20% highlighting 27 cost-effective and scalable solutions. Since then, ReFED published industry-specific Food Waste Action Guides and is focused on accelerating solutions through multistakeholder initiatives as well as capital &amp; innovation programs.</p> <p>Customers served: Food service/hospitality</p>	<p>Angel Veza angel.veza@refed.com 270-300-0223 refed.com</p>	











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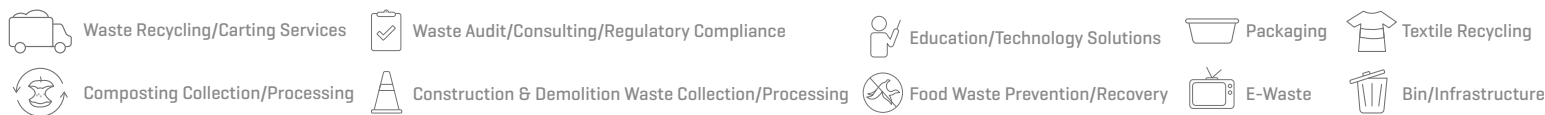
Organization	Overview	Contact	Services
<b>Rescuing Leftover Cuisine</b> 	<p>We aim to become the world's most widely used solution for companies and individuals to eliminate food waste in their communities, making food rescue sustainable and universal, and food hunger a thing of the past. Working together, we can ensure that only hunger is left behind!</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Clara Son            clara@rescuingleftovercuisine.org            646-592-2229            rescuingleftovercuisine.org</p>	
<b>RoHo Compost</b> 	<p>RoHo is a food waste nonprofit focusing on diverting food waste from landfills through composting and food recovery. In 2017, RoHo diverted over 1.1 million pounds for composting and donated over 7,000lbs of edible food for donation.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Alireza Vaziri            rohocompost@gmail.com            347-835-1163            rohocompost.org</p>	  
<b>Sims Municipal Recycling</b> 	<p>Sims Municipal Recycling (SMR) provides processing for 100% of New York City's curbside Metal Glass Plastic (MGP) recycling system. As a business of Sims Metal Management, SMR processes and markets more than 200,000 tons of plastic, glass and metal that New Yorkers put into recycling bins each year. Through an on-site Recycling Education Center, Sims offers daily tour programs focused on the recycling process, including brand teams focused on packaging concerns.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions, Residential</p>	<p>Sam Silver            sam.silver@simsmm.com            347-391-3051            simsmunicipal.com</p>	   
<b>Think Zero LLC</b> 	<p>Think Zero LLC is a waste reduction, diversion, and zero waste consulting firm specializing in helping corporations and real estate owners and developers reach their waste reduction goals and meet or exceed all commercial waste-related laws.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions</p>	<p>Ushma Pandya Mehta            ushma@thinkzero.com            thinkzerollc.com</p>	  

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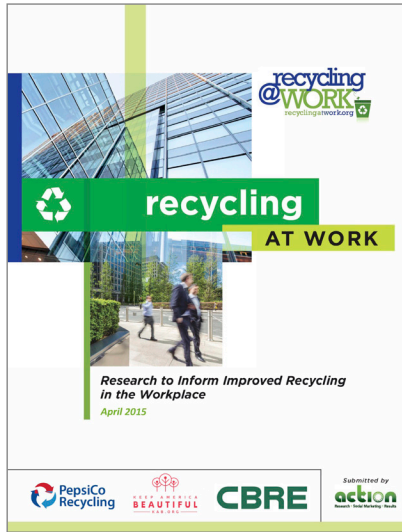
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<b>Transfertation</b> 	<p>Transfertation is an on-demand food donation system. Our technology allows food donors to request instant pickups for extra, untouched food to be delivered to a local feeding program. Our app is available for iOS.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Food service/hospitality</p>	<p>Hannah Dehradunwala            hannah.dehradunwala@transfertation.org            transfertation.org</p>	
<b>Vokashi</b> 	<p>Vokashi is a Brooklyn-based organization that provides urban-friendly composting options, using an adaptation of the Japanese “bokashi” composting practice where food waste is fermented in an airtight container. Clean buckets with fermentation media are delivered to small businesses and residences by Vokashi. Collected bucket-fermented food waste is then processed in community gardens and public green spaces.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality, Institutions, Residential</p>	<p>Vandra Thorburn            718-623-2515            vokashi.com</p>	
<b>WeHatetoWaste</b> 	<p>Global platform for sharing stories about reducing waste. NYC info in detail.</p> <p>Customers served: Commercial offices, Non-food retail, Food service/hospitality</p>	<p>Jacquelyn Ottman            jaottman@greenmarketing.com            212-879-4160            wehatetowaste.com/            nyc-zero-waste-resources/</p>	
<b>WeRadiate</b> 	<p>WeRadiate is on the forefront with data tracking to ensure regulatory compliance for compost quality assurance. WeRadiate strives to assist municipalities and communities to harness technology and build stronger closed-loop ecosystems and economies.</p> <p>Customers served: Institutions, Compost sites &amp; Compost operators</p>	<p>Sashti Balasundaram            Sashti@WeRadiate.com            WeRadiate.com</p>	



# BEST PRACTICE GUIDES

## KAB Guide to Workplace Recycling



## Zero Waste Food Events



## AIA Zero Waste Design Guidelines



## KAB Guide to Workplace Composting



## TRUE Zero Waste Certification





# SHOW US HOW YOU'RE GETTING TO ZERO

**@UNIONSQUARENY**

**#USQZEROWASTE**

**#ZEROWASTE**

For more info, contact  
Monica Munn  
Director of Economic Development

Union Square Partnership  
4 Irving Place, Room 751  
New York, NY 10003  
[info@unionsquarenyc.org](mailto:info@unionsquarenyc.org)

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