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**CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE**

**Climate Solutions That  
Advance Social Justice**

**SUSTAINABLE FOOD  
MANAGEMENT**

**GARY SONDERMEYER**

**BAYSHORE RECYCLING**

**DECEMBER 9, 2022**

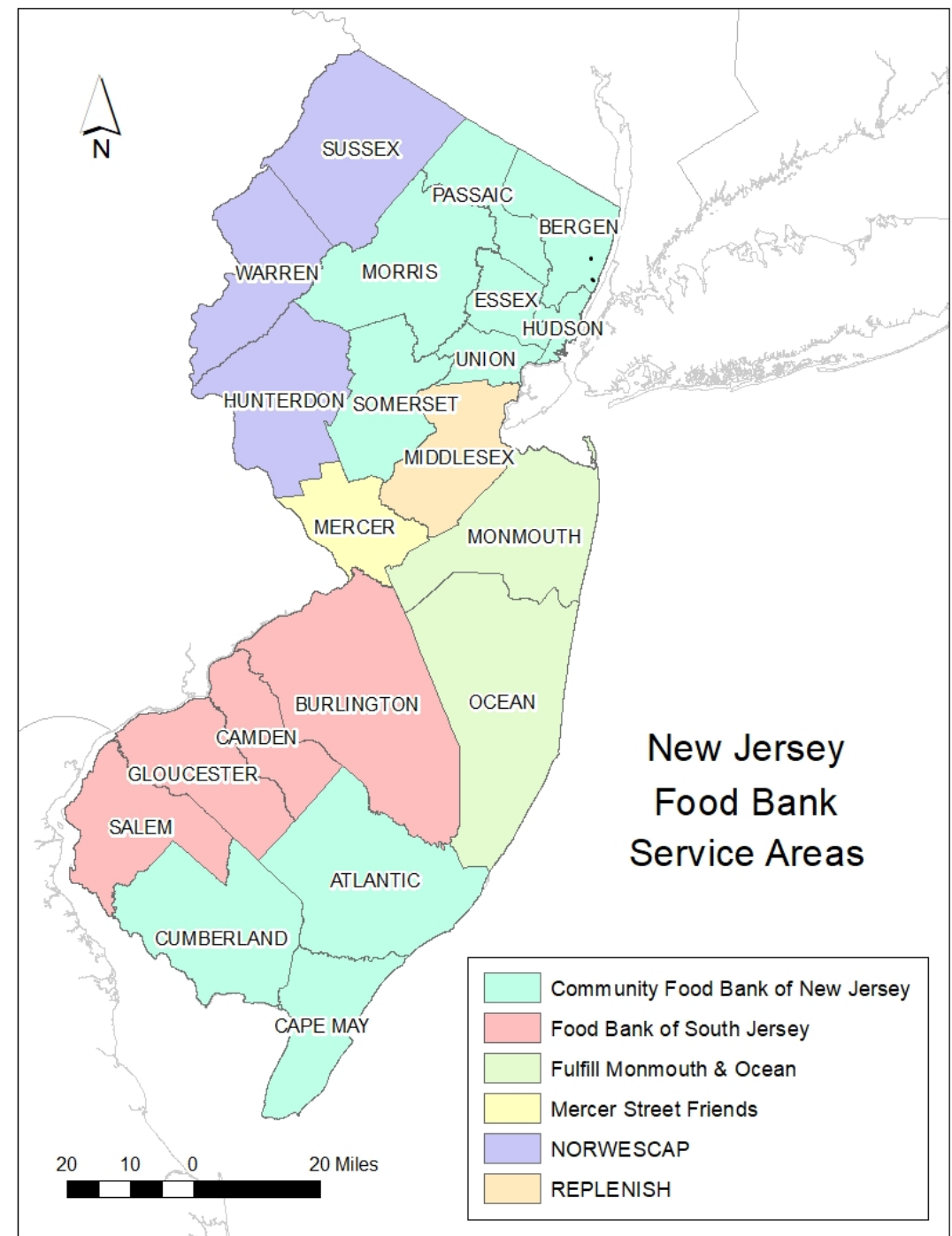
# FOOD PROBLEM STATEMENT

- The NRDC estimates that 40% of all food grown in the USA is wasted;
- New Jersey is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most affluent State in the US which is the most affluent industrialized nation on earth;
- Four New Jersey Counties are in the “Top 20” most affluent in the United States:
  - #10 Morris
  - #11 Hunterdon
  - #15 Somerset
  - #20 Bergen
- Despite our relative affluence, 11% of New Jersey’s population and 15% of kids 18 years of age and younger are food insecure;
- Wasted food is landfilled. Landfills are the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest source of human-related methane emissions in the US - some 15.1% of these emissions;
- Our goals are to dramatically advance food recovery systems while driving food waste away from landfills and to small and large-scale composting facilities.



# CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE ORGANICS WORKGROUP 2021-2022

- Connecting the “Food Recovery” and “Food Waste” Worlds for the first time in New Jersey
- 80 Organization Stakeholder Process/Gap Analysis
- Five Core Focus Areas:
  - Food Recovery
  - Food Management in 2,500 Schools
  - Small Scale Community Composting
  - Large Scale Commercial Composting
  - Sustainable Animal Manure Management
- Implementation Plan Drafted for New Jersey  
<https://njadapt.rutgers.edu/images/Organics-Workgroup-SOMMP-Final-Sept-2021.pdf>





# FOCUS AREAS TO ADVANCE SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Statewide coordination **Office of Food Security Advocate** – Mark Dinglasan
- **“All Agency approach”** to coordinate State Agency Programs
- Replicate aspects of Environmental Justice platform to **advance “Food Equity”** focus on social determinates of health and food insecurity
- **Regulatory Reform** (legislative) to remove barriers and advance:
  - ✓ Community Gardens
  - ✓ “Buy-A-Lot” Programs for Inner-City Community Centers and Gardens
  - ✓ School Gardens
  - ✓ Regional Composting in Schools
  - ✓ Backyard Composting
  - ✓ Tiered Compost Facility Permitting
  - ✓ “Share Table Program” Indemnification in Schools
  - ✓ Small Grants Assistance to Food Banks/Pantries/Kitchens



# The Work of the Initial Assessment and Action Plans

## ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES

Focus “upstream”

