

# Lesson 13 Our Wasted food



# Waste by Food Group

# U.S. food waste, in billions of pounds, 2010

Data source: Buzby JC, Wells HF, Hyman J. *The Estimated Amount, Value, and Calories of Postharvest Food Losses at the Retail and Consumer Levels in the United States*. USDA ERS; 2014.

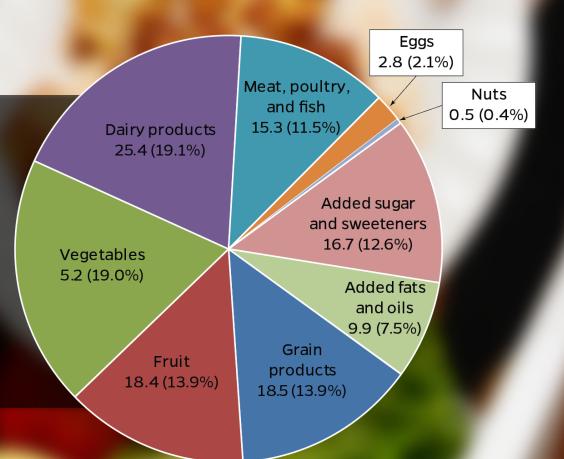


Photo credit: Michael Milli, CLF.

Decomposes with help from bacteria, worms, etc.

PLANTS

## **Nutrient Cycle**

NUTRIENT-RICH MATERIAL

mous suural sources

Photo credit (apple): Scott Bauer, USDA ARS.

Produce more strike

APPLE

# Landfills

#### Food represents the single largest component (21%) of solid waste in landfills and incinerators.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Reducing Food Waste for Business. 2014.

Photo credit : Andrea Westmoreland, 2008. Wikimedia Commons. Creative Commons CC BY-SA 2.0 . http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/deed.en



Feed Hungry People

**Feed Animals** 

Industrial Uses

Composting

Incineration or Landfill

### EPA Food Recovery Hierarchy

United States Environmental Protection Agency. https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-hierarchy

Most Preferred