

## **Waste Reduction Fact Sheet**

Veritable Vegetable operates with a commitment to minimize our impact on the environment by recycling, reducing, and repurposing 99% of the materials used at our facility. When selecting equipment vendors, we consider whether the vendor accepts used product returns to recycle parts. In addition, we allow staff to bring items from home to assist with recycling personal items. Our waste reduction efforts include:

### **Recycling**

- We stringently adhere to all environmental requirements for recycling of truck components (tires, batteries, etc.) and wash water containment.
- We recycle all electronics (if it has a cord or plug, we can recycle it).
- Our bailer allows us to recycle all plastic pallet wrap and vinyl ties that enter our facility.
- We compost all food waste.
- Styrofoam is sent to a company that regrinds it for use as cooler insulation.

### **Reducing**

- We invest in reusable mesh pallet wraps to reduce use of plastic pallet wrap.
- We utilize plastic pallets and reusable crates to reduce use of wood pallets and waxed boxes (which breakdown faster).

### **Repurposing**

- We donate all unsalable food to the local food bank and to other anti-hunger organizations.
- Plastic strip door pieces have new owners through the use of Craigslist postings (some even went to a farm for use on a hen house roof.)
- Wood pallets are returned to the vendor to build new pallets.
- Pallet corner boards are sent back to farms for re-use.
- Many items (i.e., large barrels, dock plates, lockers, used equipment) are sold through Craigslist.
- Clothing is collected from staff to send to Salvation Army and boots/shoes are sent to Nike's program called NikeGrind.