

# SWANA *palooza*

# WELCOME

Building the  
**FUTURE**  
February 25-28 | Boston, MA

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2019



# “Hey, That’s My Sandwich!”

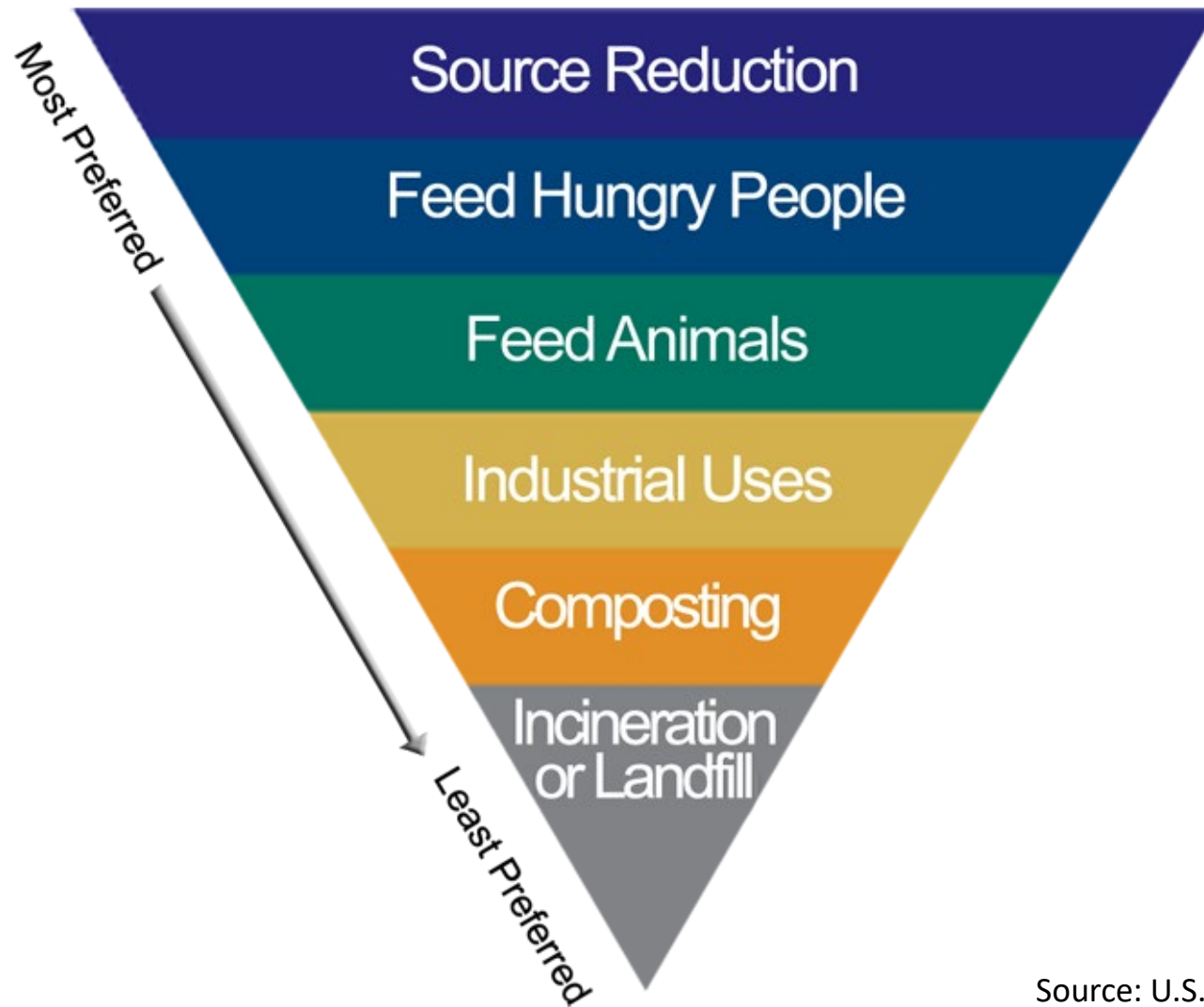
Food Waste Recovery, Environmental Stewardship, and School Curriculum

Shari L. Wilson, Project Central



Photo credit: Reddit

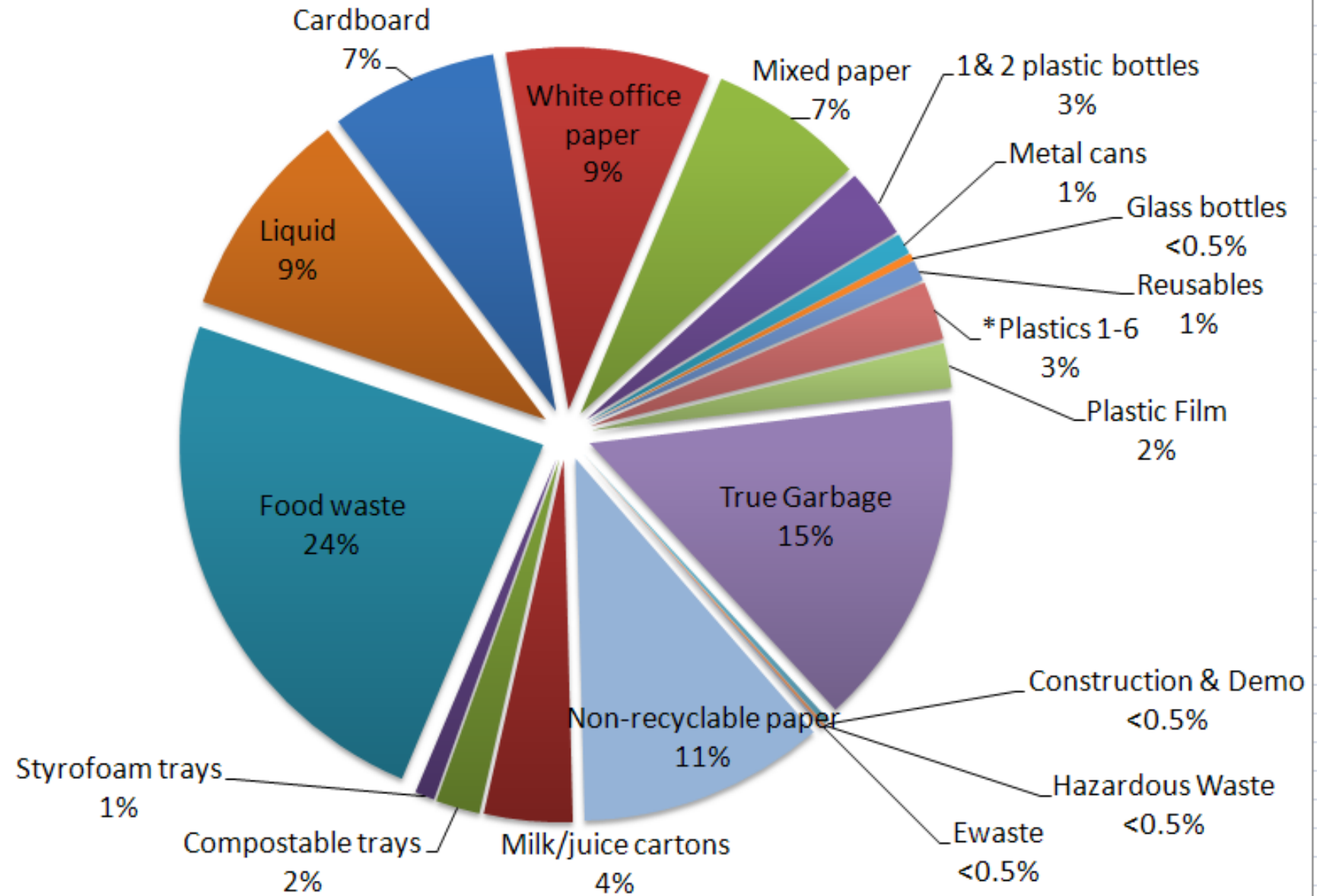
# Food Recovery Hierarchy



Source: U.S. EPA

# Composition of school waste, all grade levels

At least 62% can be composted



Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 2010

# 479,180 lbs

- 21 elementary, middle, high schools
- 8 districts, 2 charter schools, 2 Catholic schools
- Urban, rural, suburban  
Kansas City, Missouri
- 3 ½ years
- Public/private/school funding  
(some in-kind)









# Waste Audits



Packaging  
Waste  
Reduction





# Benefits



- Improved school environmental stewardship (reduced lunchroom packaging)
- Deeper understanding of environmental issues for teachers, students, and staff
- Increased personal responsibility and leadership among students
- Decreased amount of work for custodians
- More student help in keeping the lunchroom clean
- Composting and recycling at home



# Lessons Learned

- More upfront input and communication with schools
- Better understanding of ways school cafeterias are run
- Cost to continue program is difficult to absorb
- **Policies are needed** for consistency and sustainability of program



# Thank you!

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