Hierarchy to Reduce Food Waste and Grow Community

**Source Reduction**
- Prevention. Do not generate food waste in the first place! Reduce portions, buy what you need, and organize your fridge for optimal food usage.

**Edible Food Rescue**
- Feed hungry people. Divert food not suitable for people to animals such as backyard chickens or to local farmers’ livestock.

**Home Composting**
- Composting in backyards or in homes. Avoid collection costs!

**Small-scale, Decentralized**
- Onsite composting or anaerobic digestion, and community composters can accept material from off-site or simply process their own material.

**Medium-scale, Locally-based**
- Composting or anaerobic digestion at the small town or farm scale. These systems handle typically between 10 and 100 tons per week and are designed to serve small geographic areas.

**Centralized Composting or Anaerobic Digestion**
- Facilities serving large geographic areas that typically handle more than 100 tons per week. Material generally leaves the community in which it is generated.

**Mechanical Biological Mixed Waste Treatment**
- Mixed garbage is mechanically and biologically processed to recover recyclables and reduce waste volume and the potential for methane emissions before landfill disposal.

**Landfill and Incinerator**
- Food waste should be banned from landfills and trash incinerators due to their high capital costs, pollution, and contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.