



## **The Dumpster Co. Partners with Feeding America to Support National Food Rescue Challenge**

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The Dumpster Co., a roll-off dumpster rental company serving communities across Butts, Jasper, and Putnam counties in central Georgia, has announced a contribution to Feeding America's Food Rescue Challenge, a national campaign working to recover an additional one billion pounds of surplus food each year and redirect it to families and individuals experiencing hunger.

The contribution places The Dumpster Co. alongside a growing coalition of businesses and community organizations that have chosen to support Feeding America's mission to close the gap between food waste and food insecurity in the United States. For the company, which has built its reputation on serving customers from its locations in Jackson, Monticello, and Eatonton, the decision to participate in the Food Rescue Challenge reflects a belief that local businesses have a responsibility that extends beyond the services they provide.

Joe Hardin, owner of The Dumpster Co., said he recognized the connection between what the company does every day and the broader issue of waste and community need when he first encountered Feeding America's initiative. "We are in the business of helping people manage what gets discarded, and it struck

me as important that we put some of that perspective into real action," Hardin said. "Food insecurity is a real issue in the communities we work in every single day. Hunger is not an abstraction here; it's something that touches families across Butts, Jasper, and Putnam counties. If a company like ours can help move the needle, even in a small way, then it just makes sense to do it."

Feeding America is the nation's largest food rescue organization, operating a network of more than 200 food banks and 60,000 agency partners across the country. The organization currently rescues well over four billion pounds of food annually, delivering it through a nationwide infrastructure of food banks, pantries, and community programs to millions of Americans who depend on food assistance each month.

The Food Rescue Challenge was designed to build on that foundation by securing an additional one billion pounds of recovered food each year. The initiative directly targets one of the more troubling contradictions in the American food system: roughly 29 percent of the nation's food supply becomes surplus, equating to an estimated 114 billion lost meals annually, enough, by Feeding America's accounting, to feed nearly one-third of the U.S. population for an entire year. At the same time, tens of millions of Americans report not having consistent access to enough food.

Feeding America addresses that gap through a combination of retail partnerships, agricultural recovery, and technology. The organization's digital coordination platform, MealConnect, connects food donors — including grocery retailers, manufacturers, and farms — with local food banks and pantries, enabling rapid coordination of food pickup and distribution before perishable goods are lost. Since its launch in 2014, MealConnect has enabled the rescue of more than seven billion pounds of food across the network.

To sustain and expand the Food Rescue Challenge, Feeding America established a Food Rescue Fund with a goal of raising \$50 million annually. Those funds are directed toward several priorities, including increasing the availability of high-demand foods such as fresh produce, protein, and dairy; expanding the reach of the MealConnect platform; and building capacity within local food banks to source and distribute food more efficiently and at greater scale.

Central Georgia, like many regions that blend rural and suburban populations, reflects the national tension between food abundance and food access. Communities throughout Butts, Jasper, and Putnam counties include households that fall into the category of food insecurity, families and individuals for whom an unexpected expense or disruption in income can mean skipping meals. The Dumpster Co.'s contribution to the Food Rescue Challenge is a direct acknowledgment of that reality by a business that works in those communities every week.

Hardin said the company's involvement is not a one-time gesture and that he hopes the decision will encourage other small businesses in the region to consider their relationship with organizations working to

reduce hunger at the local and national level.

"We're not a big corporation. We are local people working in local communities, and we see what's around us every day," he said. "Hunger doesn't have to be inevitable. Feeding America is doing the hard work to prove that, and we want to be part of it in any way we can."

Those interested in learning more about the Food Rescue Challenge or making a contribution to Feeding America's work can visit [feedingamerica.org](http://feedingamerica.org). Feeding America accepts one-time and recurring donations in support of its nationwide food rescue operations.

The Dumpster Co. provides roll-off dumpster rental services to residential and commercial customers throughout central Georgia, with locations in Jackson, Monticello, and Eatonton. The company serves Butts, Jasper, and Putnam counties, offering flexible rental options for construction, renovation, cleanout, and waste management projects of all sizes. More information is available at [mydumpsterco.com](http://mydumpsterco.com).

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### **The Dumpster Co.**

*We're The Dumpster Co., Georgia's trusted name in dumpster rentals across 15 cities. From local projects to large cleanouts, our team delivers reliable, affordable roll-off dumpsters with unmatched customer service and zero hassle.*

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