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**Lee County's Donated not Wasted results in collection of more than 4,900 pounds of food**

Fort Myers, FL, May 9, 2025 – Donated not Wasted, Lee County's eighth annual food-rescue campaign, successfully diverted 4,903 pounds of food from potential disposal. That's almost 2.5 tons of food that did not end up in the waste stream and will help feed Lee County families.

This annual effort, in partnership with Harry Chapin Food Bank, encourages seasonal residents to donate unopened pantry items to divert as much food as possible from final disposal. This serves to not only prevent good food from going to waste but also helps to provide meals to those in need in the community.

Partners in the Donated not Wasted campaign included:

- Harry Chapin Food Bank
- Lee County Government – Lee County Solid Waste, Lee County Parks & Recreation and the Lee County Library System
- Waste Pro

Since the program's inception, more than 37,911 pounds of food has been diverted from potential disposal and sent to the Harry Chapin Food Bank – enough food to provide more than 31,593 meals to residents.

Recreation centers and libraries provided 16 convenient drop-off locations throughout the county.

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