

Bill Blake

When we were developing the Farm to School program in Arlington about 12-years ago a first action was switching to salad bar rather than pre-filled vegetable/fruit serving dishes. The janitorial staff cited a huge reduction in waste as the students only picked what they wanted to eat rather than being served things they just threw away.

Sounds simple but using smaller plates and bowls for serving would simply reduce the capacity that leads to waste.

Remind people they are throwing away money. Put a value on some of the items frequently tossed and give them a relational comparison such as this half a peach is worth a bowling game app or a cover for their I-phone.