

Topic: Reducing agricultural produce waste

History: Several years ago, I was working on a project that would see Londoners hopping on a school bus to go to a nearby farm to pick veggies and such. Sadly, the program had difficulties getting off the ground... but, I learned (after speaking with a farmer) that opportunities are there. He told me that the plan was a great one, because lots of food goes to spoil and the farmers don't have the time or resources to do something like this. Also, a few years ago, I noticed an entire field filled with butternut squashes going to waste! Not harvested! I later learned that the farmer had died just before harvest season!

Discussion: I'd like to discuss the creation of a program that would allow London residents (let's focus on those in need) an opportunity to be transported to and from area farms to pick excesses in farmers' produce and vegetables. I'd also like to learn how a communications network can be created between the City and area farmers for the purpose stated above (farmers can call in and say they have opportunities to offer free food to Londoners if they can get to and from their farm) as well as contacting the City if a crop (for whatever reason) cannot be harvested and instead of wasting it, Londoners can benefit from it.

Thanks

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