No More Waste

Team Vecna

Team Members

Bulbul Arora

Faizah Kolapo

Arika Pasha

Aim

- We want to prevent food waste, help the homeless population in Regina and fill a gap by providing businesses the opportunity to eliminate their food waste.

Why?

- Many businesses throw away their excess food waste at the end of their work day when it could have been donated to homeless individuals in our city.
- Businesses might not be aware that shelters are willing to accept their excess food, or they may not be willing to drop it off at shelters themselves.

Why?

- Recent data collected from companies in the food service industry (including hotels, restaurants and institutions) indicates that the proportion of food purchased for sale by these establishments that becomes waste is significant – 21% of dairy, eggs and field crops, 38% of produce, and 20% of meat (VCMI, 2019). Currently, most companies addressing the issue focus on food donation, diverting from landfill, with an increasing number also identifying opportunities to reduce waste.
- This wastage results from surplus inventory of ingredients and inadequate storage

Taken from Canada.ca

How?

- By creating a responsive web application that will allow restaurants to donate their excess food and allowing shelters to request that food.
- Volunteer drivers will also be available to pick up the food and deliver it to the shelters.

Research

- Before we began working on our application, we called local shelters and restaurants to see what devices they have access to during their work hours.
- We discovered that most shelters have access to smart phones, whereas restaurants preferred using their desktops.
- This gave us the idea to create a responsive website that works well on both desktops and smart phones.

How we did it

Front-end development

- For the client side, we used React and CSS to create the pages that the user sees and interacts with.
- We also used CSS to make the website responsive on big screens like laptops and smaller screens like smartphones.

Back-end development

- For the server side requests, we used Node JS. This was used to connect the interactive pages with requests to our database containing user and post information.
- We used a service called Twilio that helped us send text notifications to our users at different stages in the donation process.

Testing

Search Clinic (shelter), Savoy's (restaurant) and our peers gave us a lot of valuable feedback. They all agreed that our website has potential to reduce food waste and help people and therefore, the feedback was mainly about how the website could be more user-friendly.

Search Clinic

- The shelter mentioned that the colour scheme was quite dull and that we should look into the psychology of colours to pick a better scheme,
- A lot of blank space on the website, instead of two posts per row, we could change it to three.

Savoys Restaurant

- The restaurant wanted functionality to delete posts.
- They wanted to post pictures to show the shelters the quality of the food, quantity etc.

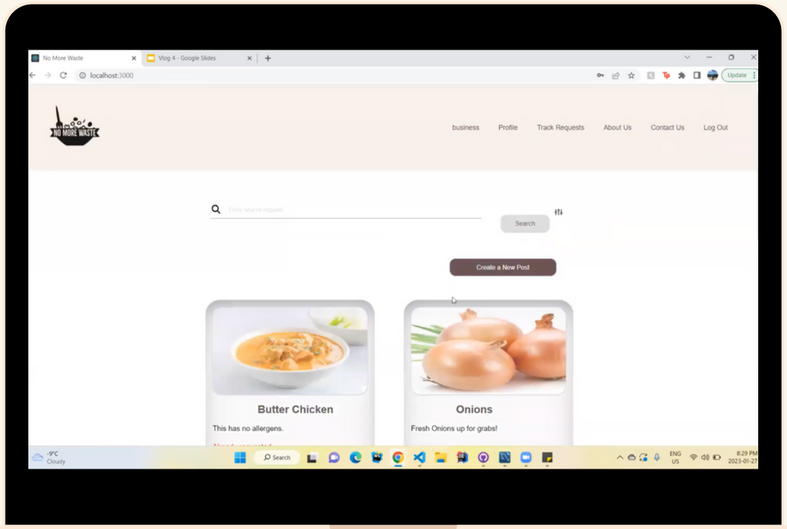
Project Changes

Redesign

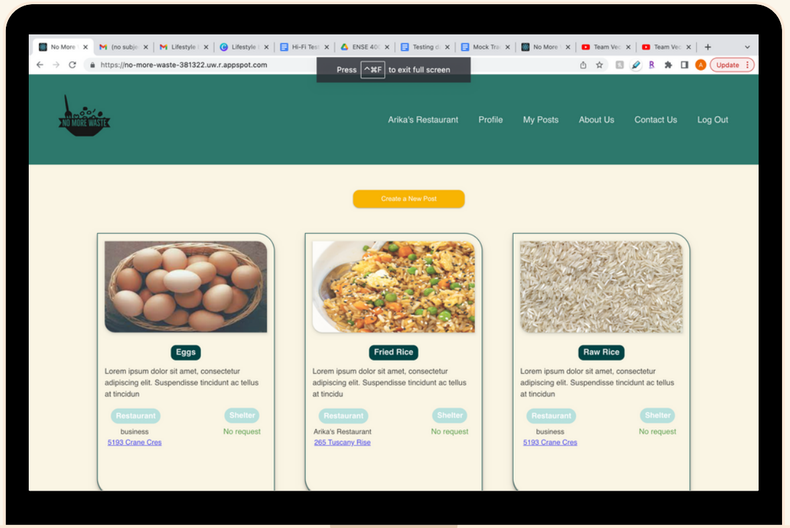
- We did a full redesign of our website and chose colors like green that portray freshness.

Redesign

Previous

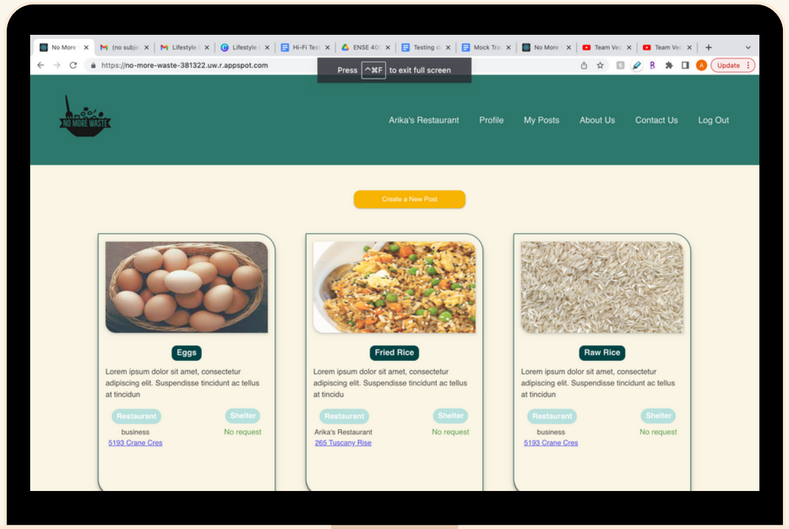


Current

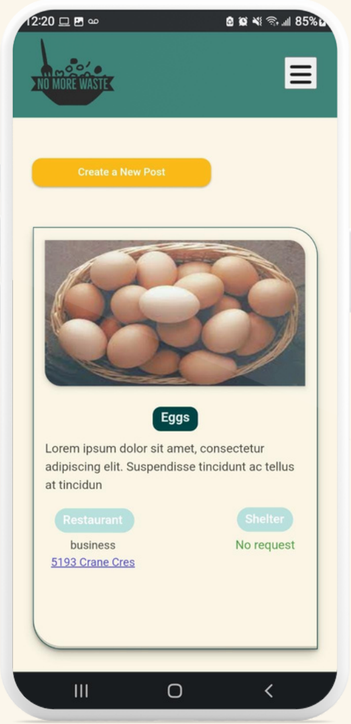


Responsiveness

Desktop



Mobile



Demo

A
No More Waste Demo
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No More Waste
Demo
Watch on YouTube

Future Work

- Allowing users to filter different types of food options on the homepage.
- Posts expiring after a certain amount of time.
- Volunteer certificate.
- Shelter verification.

conclusion

We hope we are able to help reduce food waste with this application and that you visit our booth at the tradeshow!

Thank You

nomorewaste.abf@gmail.com

https://no-more-waste-381322.uw.r.appspot.com/

Questions?