



EPICUREAN GROUP

*The Natural Choice.*

For Immediate Release

## Epicurean Group Honored with Prestigious Environmental and Economic Leadership Award

Los Altos, CA (January 20, 2017) – Epicurean Group has received the State of California’s most prestigious environmental honor, the Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Award, for the company’s Waste Not program.

California Environmental Protection Agency Secretary Matthew Rodriguez presented the award at a ceremony held at the agency headquarters in Sacramento on January 19. The waste reduction award recognizes Epicurean Group’s comprehensive program, which launched in 2003 and is implemented in all 60 company facilities.

“We’re thrilled to be recognized for our Waste Not program. We’re eliminating plastic and food waste, reducing vehicle miles and using food that is healthy and produced in the least environmentally damaging manner,” said Epicurean Group CEO Mary Clark Bartlett, who accepted the award. “We’re buying local, seasonal foods and supporting communities. We’re reducing meat consumption and serving grass-fed beef and organic and Fair Trade foods. And, we’re educating our customers about the foods that are good for their health and for the health of the planet.”

Clark Bartlett also noted that the Waste Not program directly supports California’s 75% Initiative goal of 75 percent recycling, composting or source reduction of solid waste by 2020, and the California at 50 Million climate-change goals.

The Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Award program recognizes individuals, organizations, and businesses that have “demonstrated exceptional leadership and made notable contributions” in conserving resources and protecting and enhancing the environment. A total of 12 awards were given across four categories: Climate Change; Environmental Education; Sustainable Practices, Communities or Facilities; and Waste Reduction.




“We hope that our progressive programs and practices will take root and grow, inspiring and encouraging Californians to work to create positive environmental change,” said Clark Bartlett. “We are confident that, together, we can build a new and environmentally sustainable food system.”

---

*Epicurean Group is an independent food-service management company that provides restaurant and catering services to corporations, educational campuses, and fine arts facilities throughout Northern California. Founded in 2003, Epicurean Group is committed to socially responsible and environmentally sustainable business practices.*

*Epicurean Group is ... Fresh. Honest. Local.*



*"We are thrilled to be recognized for our Waste Not program. We're eliminating plastic and food waste, reducing vehicle miles and using food that is healthy and produced in the least environmentally damaging manner. Epicurean Group has been an environmentally sustainable company since day one. We live our principles each and every day by 'changing one environment at a time.'"*

– Mary Clark Bartlett  
CEO and Founder

GEELA Category: Waste Reduction

## Epicurean Group

Waste Not: Waste Reduction in Food Service Management

### ***Eating healthy can be delicious and can help the environment too!***

Epicurean Group is a woman- and minority-owned sustainable food-service management company. While it is based in Los Altos in Santa Clara County, it has more than 50 facilities in California. The Waste Not program was launched in 2003 and includes waste management, recycling, food and materials composting and a company-wide goal of zero food waste. In 2010, CEO Mary Clark Bartlett established the GreenTown Co-op, which supplies compostable take-out containers to more than 60 restaurants, cafés and schools from Napa to Monterey. The program has resulted in more than 125,000 pounds of waste diverted from landfills annually. In addition, Epicurean Group purchases local, in-season fruit and vegetables and serves grass-fed beef all in an effort to reduce its carbon footprint and support local communities