

Job title	Food Waste Ambassadors
Category	Volunteer
Hours	5 hours/week (9am – 2pm, or 12m - 5pm), at least once a month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would ask that you commit to a minimum of 4 sessions, between 2 June - 29 September 2019
You will be...	A whizz in the kitchen who loves good food and hates waste!
We will...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide initial training on Sunday 26 May • Provide you with the opportunity to test out your creativity cooking and baking, try new recipes, and inspire others to be inventive with their use of food 'waste', or surplus. • Support your personal and professional growth how we can • Feed you for free on the Sundays that you work • Introduce you to a lovely bunch of volunteers
Reporting to	Sunday Café Managers

The Role

This summer the Cafe at Hogacre Common will be teaming up with The Replenish Project to wage a war on food waste (read more about the Eco Park, Cafe and Replenish below.). The Café's volunteer Food Waste Ambassadors will be at the forefront of this mission.

When volunteering, your primary role will to transform food surplus, supplied via Oxford Food Bank, into delicious vegetarian bakes, cakes and salads for our customers.

Food Waste Ambassadors will promote messaging around food waste reduction and composting, both in the café and via social media. In the café, they will invite customers to take part in conversations and activities that raise their awareness of food waste. Ambassadors will also photograph and write-up their recipes, sharing them on the Café's social media channels.

You will work in the kitchen alongside Café Trainees – people who have been out of work for a while – and may be asked to support their learning at times; sharing skills, tips and recipes with them.

Tasks and responsibilities

As a Food Waste Ambassador you will:

- Commit to cooking on at least 6 Sunday mornings throughout summer;
- Think up your own recipes (or use our library of recipe books and templates) to plan your Sunday cooking, responding to food surplus that is donated to the Café by Oxford Food Waste on Friday. (An indicative list of ingredients will be shared with you on Friday, via email or Whatsapp, to help get your creative juices flowing, in advance of Sunday.)
- Let us know, no later than midday on Saturday, if you need any urgent pantry ingredients ordered in for your shift on Sunday.
- Be responsible for cooking-up the Café's 'Sunday Food Surplus Special' (enough to feed 25 people) OR if you're more of a baker, you can come along and bake lots of cakes instead
- Ensure that the food that you prepare is well-seasoned, follows good food hygiene practice and that allergen information of what you cook/prepare is clearly recorded for customers;
- Photograph and write up your recipes, posting them online on the Café's social media channels.
- Engage café customers on the topic of food waste by running 'talking tables' and other interactive activities. During your training, you will be provided with a range of ideas and resources for you to use, but you can also come up with your own ideas!
- Over the course of summer you will help build resources and guides on how to reduce food waste, for use by the public and the Café at Hogacre Common kitchen volunteers.
- Keep the kitchen and food-preparation areas clean, tidy and safe kitchen, as you work and work as a team to wash up and clean down the kitchen and food-preparation areas at the end of your shift, with other volunteers.
- Build a positive and professional relationship with the café volunteers and trainees; supporting them, with patience, as they learn new skills in a sometimes hot and busy kitchen atmosphere.
- Share ideas and work alongside other Food Waste Ambassadors to further the goals of the café and Replenish project
- Contribute ideas and evaluate the success of your/the Café's work to combat food waste, sharing your feedback with the Directors of the Cafe.

Person Specification

Essential

- Passionate about reducing food waste!
- Have the time, enthusiasm and persistence to see through a commitment from start to finish.
- A clear and confident communicator.
- Ability to form positive, supportive relationships with others and work in a team.
- Comfortable working on own, relying on your initiative and common sense, but also knowing when to seek support.
- A desire to make use of the opportunity to learn new things and contribute to the learning of others.

How to apply

Complete our [short application form](#) and email it to us, along with a copy of your CV, to thecafeathogacrecommon@gmail.com by midday on Tuesday 21 May 2019.

A little bit about...

Hogacre Common Eco Park (<http://www.hogacrecommon.org.uk/>)

Since 2010, when [West Oxford Community Renewables](#) took on a field previously used as a college sports ground, the local community have come together to undertake lots of new low carbon [projects](#) at Hogacre Common.

Hogacre Common is a fourteen-acre site less than a mile from the centre of Oxford and within its fertile flood plains. Bounded by streams on three sides and only accessible by foot, it features field, woodland, aquatic habitats and beehives, and hosts low carbon community activities, hosting forest schools, the community allotment 'OxGrow' and summer pop-up in the pavilion – 'The Cafe at Hogacre Common'. Activities, events and projects are made possible by volunteers from the local community.

The Cafe at Hogacre Common (<https://thecafeathogacre.com/>)

Every summer (from the end of May to the end of September) the Cafe at Hogacre Common pops-up on Sundays. It is the public face of Hogacre Common and its work; feeding hungry locals delicious vegetarian food (which is mainly organic and locally-sourced where possible) whilst engaging the public with Hogacre's low carbon and environmentally-friendly projects.

In 2019, The Cafe at Hogacre Common is looking to build on its social and environmental impacts. Work will include piloting a Mentoring scheme to help people get back into work, cooking up veg from OxGrow, as well as working with food waste.

The Replenish Project (<https://oxfordshire.org.uk/replenish/>)

The Replenish Project is funded by Oxfordshire County Council and aims to engage Oxfordshire citizens on the topic of food waste and composting. We do this by supporting an amazing network of volunteers who are involved in a wide range of activities. These include running 'talking shops' at public events to raise awareness of food waste, to setting up projects such as community composting schemes and community fridges.

OxGrow (<https://oxgrow.org/>)

OxGrow is Oxford's Edible Community Garden. OxGrow volunteers have transformed some waste land in the heart of Oxford into a thriving food garden. The garden is open to everyone – it's for kids and adults of all ages to learn how to grow food together. It's an exciting,

creative edible laboratory to experiment with organic, climate-friendly growing techniques, and harnesses local knowledge to dabble with produce you'll never find in the shops.

Where is Hogacre Common?

Hogacre is not far from Abingdon Road, however we're a little hidden enclave of greenery, so please excuse the convoluted instructions below:

1. From the middle of town at Carfax Tower, go down south on the Abingdon Road and turn into White House Road when you see the Folly Bridge Inn (second right after the bridge over the river).
2. Go down the road to the corner where you see Grandpont Nursery, and here take the track straight in front of you past the South Oxford Adventure Playground.
3. Cross the railway bridge, turn right and you've found us!

Please note, we have very limited provision for disabled access and there is no way of getting to us by road on a regular basis. Sorry, but please do call us so we can discuss ways of getting over.