Surplus Food Collection Volunteer

About the role

As a Surplus Food Collection volunteer you'll play a vital part in making our community meals happen, by ensuring that your weekly FoodCycle session has a regular donation of food. You'll pick up surplus food donations from our partner supermarkets and local retailers, ensuring a prompt, reliable and friendly collection each week. You'll then bring the surplus food back to your local Project venue and store it securely. You can do this on foot, by bike or by car! You don't need to have any previous experience – you just need to be passionate about food and reducing the amount of food that's wasted in our society!

About FoodCycle

Week in, week out we nourish the hungry and lonely in our communities with delicious meals and great conversation, using food which would otherwise go to waste.

FoodCycle aims to:

- Connect communities
- Support mental health and wellbeing
- Nourish the hungry
- Promote sustainability
- Inspire change

A FoodCycle project is where the magic happens. Each Project is run on the ground by a team of 8 or more lead volunteers called Project Leaders, with each leader taking on a specific role to ensure the smooth running of their FoodCycle Project. These people are passionate, committed and want to make a positive change within their community. They take ownership and make decisions about the day-to-day running of their Project.

Skills you'll learn

- ✓ **Teamwork:** you'll work as part of a team to collect food from a range of retailers.
- ✓ **Relationship building**: you'll build lasting relationships with store managers and volunteers.
- ✓ **Fundraising:** you'll have the opportunity to participate in fundraising activities, like pop ups and sponsored challenges, to help raise vital funds to support your Project.

FoodCycle is a company limited by guarantee (number 7101349) and a registered charity in England and Wales (number 1134423).

What to expect from FoodCycle

- ✓ Ongoing support and advice from a FoodCycle Project Leader during every session.
- ✓ Expenses, including mileage, covered in line with our volunteer policy.
- ✓ Free online training modules, including first aid awareness and food allergens.
- ✓ The opportunity to take on additional tasks/responsibilities.
- ✓ Impressive skills to add to your CV and a reference if/when you need it.
- ✓ The opportunity to meet a large network of like-minded people.
- ✓ A fun, creative volunteer experience within a community led project.

What's expected from me

- ✓ Have bags of enthusiasm!
- ✓ Follow all FoodCycle policies and procedures – including the volunteer agreement.
- ✓ Follow all training you receive when registering with us.
- ✓ Support FoodCycle to fulfil its mission of nourishing communities with food and conversation.

When driving:

- ✓ A full UK driving licence.
- ✓ A road-worthy vehicle with up-to-date road tax and MOT certificate.
- ✓ Fully comprehensive insurance.
- ✓ Read and agree to FoodCycle's Volunteer Drivers Policy.

When cycling:

- ✓ A road-worthy bicycle (with ability to hitch a trailer) and a helmet.

When walking:

- ✓ Sensible shoes and a sturdy backpack/bag.

Time commitment

Give as much as you feel! It is easy to volunteer with FoodCycle and we don't look for minimum commitments, but we love it if you keep coming back! An average surplus food collection volunteer slot is 2 hours.

To apply

Register to volunteer here https://volunteer.foodcycle.org.uk/volunteer-sign-up then sign up to a surplus food collection slot online. If you are using a car to collect surplus food then we will need to see copies of the following, before you start volunteering:

- ✓ Your driving licence.
- ✓ Your road tax and MOT certificate.
- ✓ Your insurance policy.

Safeguarding statement

"Safeguarding is Everyone's business – FoodCycle is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare / wellbeing of children, young people and adults at risk. It expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment."

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