



Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank

How to Run a Food Drive

Food drives are a great way to make a difference in ending hunger and to give back to your community. Anyone can run a food drive, at any time of year, and no amount is too small.

Thank you for your interest in running a food drive for the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank! Whether you are an individual, group, business, or organization, this document will help you run a successful food drive. If you have any questions we are always here to help! Please contact our Food Procurement and Local Food Development Manager, Siobhan Bonisteel, at 519-622-6550 x 202 or send her an email: sbonisteel@cambridgefoodbank.on.ca.

Step One: Organize!

Consider putting a group together who can help and support you. Maybe it's your co-workers, neighbours, family, classmates or friends. Neighborhoods, schools, offices, teams, civic groups, and communities of worship are just some of the many organizations we work with to run food drives. This is a great opportunity to involve your community!

Choose the location and duration of your food drive. Food drives can last a few days to a few weeks, so make sure you set a start and end date, or if this is a one day event, a start and end time.

Make sure that you will be able to store your collected food somewhere until you are able to deliver it or arrange for a pick-up. To donate fresh food please organize drop off right away, or plan to make multiple deliveries to make sure that food arrives fresh.

Don't forget to let us know that you are having a food drive! We will provide you with flyers, containers, and arrange a pick-up for large donations.



#FeedingCommunity

Step Two: Get Creative!

Think about what kind of food drive you want to hold! Is it a friendly competition between departments at your business? Is it collecting one specific item from our most needed list? Successful food drives often have a theme that makes them unique. Maybe you're a runner, and you plan to run ten miles for hunger. Ask your "crowd" to sponsor you by the mile, and feed thousands of people with just one run. You can also give us monetary donations, rather than purchase food and we will tell you what we are able to purchase with that amount. Challenges are only limited by your imagination!

Step Three: Marketing!

Make sure you tell everyone you know about your food drive! Make flyers and hand them out. Create posters and social media messages to share with your friends!

At the Food Bank, we can help you with your marketing needs. Contact Alie at ateetzel@cambridgefoodbank.on.ca to get help with marketing your food drive.

Step Four: Make Your Donation!

Drop off your donation to us at 54 Ainslie St. South, Cambridge or call us to arrange for a pick-up of larger donations: 519-622-6550, x202.

Lastly, send us your pictures! We love to post about our donors and community supporters. If you are on social media, be sure to tag us and use our hashtag #FeedingCommunity!



Thank you so much for your interest in supporting the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank. By donating and working with us, you are investing in your community! For more information, visit our website cambridgefoodbank.org or find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to stay up-to-date on all things Food Bank.