



**POSITION:** AmeriCorps Food Educator

**TO APPLY:** Send resume and cover letter to [maria@oxbow.org](mailto:maria@oxbow.org)

### **OXBOW'S MISSION**

Our mission is to inspire people to eat healthy, sustainably grown food and to steward our natural resources for future generations.

### **WHAT WE DO**

The Center is located on 230 acres of forest and grassland bordered by Western Washington's Snoqualmie River. We use this mixed landscape to:

Produce food. We cultivate 12 acres of certified organic mixed vegetable crops, herbs, and flowers using agro-ecological principles and engage in research to inform conservation agriculture practices. We grow food for local grocery stores, restaurants, hunger relief, a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, and an on-site seasonal Farm Stand.

Grow native plants. We operate a native plant nursery that uses sustainable growing methods to produce plants for habitat restoration projects and urban landscapes. We share our knowledge to encourage increased production and use of natives in the Pacific Northwest, and beyond.

Connect children to nature. We offer education programs for children pre-K through high school to build environmental literacy and provide students with opportunities to learn about the links between agriculture, conservation, and the environment.

Restore and sustain habitat. We carry out ecological restoration projects and partner with scientists, regional planners, and other environmental organizations to learn how humans can benefit from the land while protecting biodiversity.

Cultivate community. We offer people of all ages opportunities to put their values into action as we promote climate resilience and encourage healthy food systems. We foster community through a membership program, a CSA program, special events, volunteer opportunities, and workshops & tours highlighting Oxbow's land and programs.

### **POSITION OVERVIEW**

Oxbow is partners with other organizations across Washington state to connect kids to healthy food from seed-to-table through growing, preparing, and eating healthy food. Food Educators are the "boots on the ground" that make it possible to connect kids to healthy food from seed to table.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

At Oxbow Farm & Conservation Center, the Food Educator Corps Member will:

- Lead Fall, Spring, and Summer Farm Adventures Field Trips for elementary school students, exploring seasons, plant parts, plant lifecycles, interdependence, and natural processes such as decomposition.
- Lead Winter In-Class lessons for elementary students on environmental education (EE) and farm-related science subjects, such as worms and decomposition, seeds, pollination, bird adaptations, and stormwater.

- Serve with partner elementary school to support outdoor classroom care and garden-based EE lessons, in collaboration with teachers and community members.
- Develop new education programming with the OxEd team.
- Deliver environmental/farm education programs to all age groups at some weekend Kids' Farm tours, seasonal festivals, and special events.
- Meet AmeriCorps' reporting and evaluation requirements.
- Attend/tabling at special events on some nights and weekends.
- Represent Oxbow in a positive, professional manner, engaging with and educating visitors about Oxbow's mission and programs.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Must be at least 17 years old and a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or legal permanent resident of the U.S.
- Some college or equivalent experience in the fields of education, environmental studies, sustainability, food systems, or agriculture
- Experience working with children, especially early learners, and delivering EE programming
- Experience farming or gardening and/or a strong desire to learn
- Comfortable speaking in front of large groups
- Able to take direction, ask for help/clarity when necessary, and accept constructive feedback on work and technique
- Clear, consistent communication and consistent attention to detail
- Able to work independently and within a team
- Positive leadership skills
- Flexible, creative, and able to perform well in diverse conditions and under pressure and be ready for curve balls from kids and adults
- Able to perform work in inclement weather, standing, sitting, bending over or kneeling, to lift heavy & awkward objects, up to 50 lbs., and to perform physical work such as digging and planting

## **TERM OF SERVICE:**

Estimated service term is August 2021 - August 2022

## **COMPENSATION**

- Living Allowance totaling \$26,458.64
- Education Award from the National Service Trust in the amount of \$6,345 upon successful completion of service
- Health care coverage including dental and vision
- Child care allowance for qualified members
- Food stamp eligibility
- Opportunity to learn and grow in the company of other passionate service members
- Professional development including classroom management, farming, nutrition, trauma-informed education, etc.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMITMENT**

Oxbow is committed to cultivating a culture of diversity and inclusion. We value the individual differences, life experiences, and knowledge that our staff members bring to their work and their communities. Valuing diversity is a significant part of our culture, our values, and the success of Oxbow's mission.

Oxbow provides equal employment opportunities to all staff members and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.

Oxbow is committed to fostering a racially diverse team. People of color are encouraged to apply.