



ZERO WASTE AMBASSADOR EMORY

Zero Waste Ambassadors Charge

Background: The Zero Waste Ambassadors (ZWAs) have been vital in helping to reduce and divert landfill waste at Emory University. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Emory community can expect to see increased amounts of disposables and personal protective equipment (PPE) on campus during the 2020-2021 school year. Therefore, the peer-to-peer education of the ZWAs will be more critical than ever.

Emory's 2025 Sustainability Vision sets the goal of 95% diversion of our waste from landfills. Emory is showing national leadership in protecting our neighborhoods from the negative social, economic and environmental impacts of landfills. We owe it to our surrounding communities and future generations to lead the way to a post-landfill future.

Mission: Zero Waste Ambassadors will empower students, faculty and staff with the knowledge and resources to actualize the Sustainability Vision goals pertaining to reducing and diverting waste. It is critical to foster a community that recognizes the value of materials management and its intersections with environmental justice, resource conservation and a regenerative economy. ZWAs will gain the tools and leadership skills to educate others and the agency to share feedback on how to improve Emory's systems, communication and culture to achieve these goals.

Vision: A group of student, faculty, and staff volunteers, who are actively willing to champion waste management and reduction in all areas of the Emory experience. A Zero Waste Ambassador strives to promote a culture at Emory that prioritizes reducing and diverting waste in all decisions that we make as individuals and as a community. As questions arise regarding increased disposables and PPE, Zero Waste Ambassadors will be vital in communicating proper reduction and disposal methods across campus, as well as relaying questions to the Office of Sustainability Initiatives Staff.

Goals:

- Train Zero Waste Ambassadors as a resource for the campus community
- Increase understanding of and engagement in Zero Waste practices
- Conduct outreach in respective academic units
- Identify campus decision-makers and support efforts to reduce and divert waste

- Aid in and communicate proper disposal of PPE and other coronavirus-related disposables

Structure/ Expectations: The Zero Waste Ambassador team will:

- Complete an initial training session with the Office of Sustainability Initiatives
- Review the latest ZWA updates posted on the OSI website and circulated through the OSI newsletter
- Listen to community questions regarding waste and report back to OSI
- Lead at least one outreach campaign or (virtual) event with members of the Emory community. Outreach ideas include, but are not limited to:
 - Co-leading a virtual “trash talk” pop-in meetings OSI plans to schedule, possibly through Zoom or Facebook Live, to answer waste reduction and sorting questions
 - Contributing to a blog post on the OSI website
 - Contributing to social media posts about zero waste through OSI Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter accounts
 - Leading a (virtual) zero waste training for your student group, department, residence hall, lab, etc. with the support of the OSI staff as requested
 - Integrating zero waste information into existing communications channels from your network
 - Creating your own campaigns that OSI can support!

[Join our Zero Waste Ambassador team today!](#)

*Please note: Because we anticipate that large gatherings will not be permitted on campus, ZWAs will not be asked to volunteer at certified sustainable events as in years past. We care about your safety and are open to other recommendations for how to promote proper waste diversion at events if they are permitted.