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Volunteer role description

Role title: Practical Conservation Volunteer

Team/Group: Reserve Management/ People and Wildlife

Your volunteer leader: Ian O'Brien, Reserve Ranger (North)
Charleen Case, Reserve Ranger (North)
Miriam Lawley, Reserve Ranger (South)
Peter Stanyon, Reserve Ranger (South)

Volunteering base: We run the following sessions across the county every week:

Attenborough Nature Reserve: Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays.

Idle Valley Nature Reserve: Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays.

Rushcliffe / South Nottinghamshire: Wednesdays & Fridays.

Newark area: Thursdays

Mansfield & Sherwood areas: Tuesdays

North Nottinghamshire: Wednesdays

We also have occasional weekend sessions at Attenborough, including a monthly Women's Group.

Why we need this role

We need volunteers to join our practical conservation teams to help conserve, enhance and maintain the important habitats at our nature reserves across Nottinghamshire. Practical volunteering provides an essential support for the reserve team throughout the seasons, with activities such as scrub clearance, tree planting, meadow cutting, bailing hay, path maintenance and much more. All our reserves are open to the public seven days a week and require regular maintenance to support access to nature for everyone. Our practical volunteers help achieve this.

What this role involves

Practical conservation volunteers meet weekly to carry out a wide range of tasks on our reserves throughout Nottinghamshire. As a volunteer you will be working as part of a fantastic team of diverse ages and backgrounds who come together to make a difference for wildlife and people's appreciation of it.

We request each volunteer to dress for the weather; wearing layers is the best way to prepare for the good old British climate. Wear something you don't mind getting messy and stout footwear or wellies. All activities are outdoors so please bring a drink and a packed lunch. We provide all tools, personal protection equipment such as gloves and hard hats, and plenty of tea/ coffee and biscuits.

Experience and skills needed

No specialist skills are required however you will need to:

- Have a moderate/good level of fitness
- Be able to work as part of a team working closely with other people.
- Follow instructions – for your safety and everyone else's.
- Have an interest in the natural environment and wildlife
- A willingness to learn new skills and gain new experiences.

Please note - if you require assistance/support in your everyday life, you will need to attend with someone who can support you in order to join these practical volunteering sessions.

Benefits and training opportunities

- Help protect your local environment
 - Feel more connected to nature
 - Gain valuable experience for future employment prospects
 - Meet new people and work as part of a team
 - Learn new skills and about habitat management
 - Improved fitness, health and wellbeing
 - A full induction and demonstration of safe use of tools and habitat care
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Commitment

There is no limit to your involvement – you are welcome to select multiple sessions if you have the time, capacity and energy!

We ask all volunteers to attend as regularly as they can for their chosen session(s) and let their Volunteer Leader know if they cannot attend. This helps with planning tasks and the tools and equipment need.

You may need to make your own way to the sites as we have limited transport capacity from our main bases. Many of the reserves are isolated and not served by public transport.

Please arrive in time for a 10am start. Sessions generally end at 3pm. There are drinks and lunch breaks.

Duration of role

Ongoing.

References required?

No

All volunteers are asked to agree to our [Volunteer Code of Conduct](#)

Click her to complete an online [application form](#)

www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org/get-involved