

## **Volunteer Nature Reserves Trainee Placement**

**Expectation: Part-time (3 days a week) for 9-12 months**

**“I loved absolutely every minute of my Traineeship. I met some truly wonderful people and learned so much.”**

**Ralph Giles – Current BBOWT Volunteer Nature Reserves Trainee in Buckinghamshire**

Here at BBOWT we've provided Volunteer Traineeships for over 20 years, honing what we offer to reflect what employers are looking for. Over 80% of our Volunteer Nature Reserves Trainees have, on completion of their traineeship, gone into paid employment and become Reserves Wardens and Officers, Land Managers, Rangers and Ecologists across the conservation sector, or into higher education.

We know it's challenging in today's economic climate to find employment, a placement year opportunity or to change careers. That's why we offer people who are passionate about supporting our vision to restore nature the opportunity to gain qualifications and hands-on experience we know will help them achieve their environmental conservation career aspirations.

We're now recruiting 2 x Volunteer Nature Reserves Trainees in West Berkshire based at [Greenham and Crookham Commons | Berks Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust](#)

This will be your base but you will have the opportunity to travel to other reserves in the county to experience a broad range of habitats.

## **About the Role**

**Expectation: 12-month placement - 3 days a week (Tues, Weds & Thurs)**

**Hours: 8.30am - 4.30pm**

**Start Date: Late May/Early June**

### **What you'll be doing**

Imagine waking up in a morning and being able to help with the management and restoration of some of our most beautiful nature reserves, where no two days are the same. The traineeship will give you a broad range of experience across different habitats on reserves, including looking after livestock, working with power tools and machinery, practical site maintenance, outdoor nature conservation work and carrying out species surveys. One of the key areas will be leading, managing and supporting volunteer reserve work parties who play a vital role in the conservation of our nature reserves.

### **What you'll have:**

- A positive attitude
- A passion for helping nature and being outdoors
- A good level of physical fitness and strength
- Problem solving skills and able to use your own initiative
- Ability to communicate clearly and follow complex instructions
- A full driving licence with at least 1 years' experience and a willingness to drive Wildlife Trust vehicles.
- Ideally some experience of working /volunteering doing outdoor work

### **Who you'll be:**

- Committed and passionate about joining our mission to put nature into recovery
- A proactive 'can do' approach to learning and completing tasks whatever the weather!
- Happy to get hands-on with power tools and machinery
- A team player able to work collaboratively and inclusively whilst building excellent working relationships
- Full of energy and enthusiasm to motivate and lead teams of volunteers of all ages and backgrounds
- Desire to develop skills and standards of workmanship required in habitat management

### **What you'll get:**

- A comprehensive training package to support you in your volunteer role:
  - NPTC Chainsaw, Felling & Cross Cutting Certificate
  - Basic BORDA 4x4 course
  - First Aid at Work & Forestry Qualification
  - Leadership training
  - Driver Awareness
  - Tool Maintenance
  - Brushcutter training
  - Volunteer Management training.

- Invaluable skills and experience to build the foundations for your future career or progression as a volunteer.
- An opportunity to help restore nature in a tangible way.
- Travel expenses (as per our policy)
- Networking opportunities within the environmental sector at BBOWT and across The Wildlife Trusts nationally.
- A skilled and knowledgeable mentor to support your learning and development journey.
- Support to help you with next steps after your traineeship.
- An amazing welcoming team to work with

For further information please follow the links below to the role descriptions and if you would like an informal chat about this opportunity, please contact: [volunteering@bbowt.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@bbowt.org.uk)