

Volunteer Role Description

Role title
Volunteer Nature Reserves Trainee (South Buckinghamshire)
Based at location
College Lake, Tring, HP23 5QG College Lake is an ex-industrial wetland and chalk grassland site, designed to give visitors a great, accessible experience of nature. It provides an opportunity to work on a visitor and nature focussed site, providing great exposure to the balance required to manage both aspects. The site also acts as a base for the South Buckinghamshire reserves team, managing sites between Tring in the north and the river Thames in the south, including the complex at Dancersend, chalk grassland at Grangelands and a military orchid hotspot at Homefield Wood. This role provides the opportunity to work with both teams across all these sites. http://www.bbwt.org.uk/nature-reserves/
Purpose of the role
To assist with the management of the reserves and the Conservation Grazing livestock.
Type of work in which you will be involved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reserves estate work, including habitat management such as vegetation management, maintenance of site infrastructure and boundary fences, and leading regular volunteer groups. • Training, use and maintenance of a variety of hand tools and machinery. • Assistance with stock movements and health checks. • Visitor engagement - assisting with guided walks and events
Experience &/or qualifications needed
<p>What you'll have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Good communication skills • A full driving licence with at least 1 years' experience • Ideally some experience of working /volunteering doing outdoor work. <p>Who you'll be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed and passionate about joining our mission to put nature into recovery. • Keen to learn and develop with a can-do approach, whatever the weather! • Someone who is happy to get hands-on with power tools and machinery. • A team player able to work collaboratively and inclusively whilst building excellent working relationships. • Be full of energy and enthusiasm to motivate and lead teams of volunteers (training provided)

Times/days we would like you to be available

A commitment to work three days a week for 6 to 12 months is required. Working days are Tuesday to Thursday.

Benefits to volunteer & possible training opportunities

A substantial amount of training and experience is provided including externally certified training in:

- **Outdoor First Aid Level 2 plus Forestry,**
- **BORDA Basic 4x4 Driving**
- **LANTRA Brushcutter**
- **NPTC Level 2 Award in Chainsaw: Cross-cutting, Maintenance & Felling Trees up to 380mm.** Chainsaw training will only be provided if the trainee signs up to a 12-month placement.

In addition to this, a programme of in-house training is provided including:

- Intro to BBOWT
- Leading Practical Groups
- Tool Maintenance
- Brushcutter maintenance
- Driver awareness
- Interview training

The in-house training runs to a set schedule and training received will depend on the start date and the duration of the placement. Trust staff will also teach practical nature reserve management skills including livestock, infrastructure, and habitat management, and provide the theory and rationale behind the work you do.

Person to whom you will be responsible

College Lake Reserves Warden and South Buckinghamshire Reserves Office

Expenses payable

Volunteers who use their own vehicles when travelling on behalf of the Trust will receive reimbursement in accordance with the mileage rates outlined below:

Motorised vehicles: 45p/mile

Bicycles: 45p/mile

The above rates are intended to cover all running costs associated with the use of personal cars on behalf of the Trust and no other expenses, e.g. car wash, fuel and oil, etc. will be reimbursed by BBOWT in this regard.

Travel expenses may also be claimed by Volunteer Trainees in travelling to their placement in accordance with this policy but are capped per month.