

Berkshire

Oxfordshire

Volunteer Role Description

Role title:

Wildlife Trainee (Conservation) College Lake, Buckinghamshire

Based at location:

College Lake Nature Reserve, near Tring

Purpose of the role:

To assist the reserves team with the management of College Lake and Pitstone Fen nature reserves.

Type of activities you will be involved in:

Reserve management: Will include practical habitat management, livestock management, maintenance of site infrastructure, leading volunteer teams and biological surveying. Examples of tasks: Fencing, brushcutter operation, tree felling using a chainsaw, habitat surveys, scrub management, footpath maintenance. The tasks are extremely varied.

There will also be opportunities to experience public engagement such as helping at events or guided walks.

Experience &/or qualifications needed:

Essential:

- Desire to work in UK wildlife conservation.
- A good level of physical fitness & strength. •
- Willingness to use power tools including chainsaws (training will be provided).
- Willingness to supervise and lead others. •
- Ability to interact with a range of people from different age groups & backgrounds.
- Willingness to develop skills. •
- Current full driving licence and a willingness to drive work vehicles. •
- Availability to cover occasional weekend days.
- Helpful and friendly attitude towards public. •

Desirable:

- Experience of practical conservation.
- Aptitude for hands-on practical tasks.

- Experience of engaging with volunteers.
- Experience of public engagement: Good communication skills.
- Relevant education and /or experience.

Times/days we would like you to be available:

A commitment to three days a week for 6 to 12 months is required. Hours: Tues, Wed & Thurs 8:30am to 4:30pm. A further commitment to one weekend day per month is required with time off given in lieu during the week.

Benefits to volunteer & possible training opportunities:

A substantial amount of training and experience is provided. Trust staff will teach practical nature reserve management skills and provide the theory and rationale behind what you do. A training budget is available which includes externally certified training in First Aid and NPTC chainsaw certification. The position will also provide valuable experience of public engagement at a busy visitor site. The programme is intended to facilitate your progression to a paid job in wildlife conservation.

You will be responsible to:

College Lake Warden

Expenses payable:

Limited travel expenses are available.