

## Volunteer Role Description

Role title
<b>Volunteer Nature Reserves Trainee - North Buckinghamshire</b>
Based at location
Meadow Farm, Blackthorn, OX25 1TW <a href="http://www.bbowt.org.uk/nature-reserves/">http://www.bbowt.org.uk/nature-reserves/</a>  Meadow Farm sits within the Upper Ray Reserves, a suite of floodplain meadows, rough grassland and wetland along the River Ray. This mosaic of habitats boasting thick, blackthorn rich hedgerows and floristically diverse hay meadows supports a spectrum of interesting wildlife including breeding waders, overwintering wildfowl and nationally rare butterflies. The Land Management team based out of Meadow Farm also manage several local woodland sites including Rushbeds Wood, Finemere Wood and Whitecross Green Wood, providing the opportunity to manage wide, floristically diverse rides and rich ancient woodland habitats. Further afield, we also look after Foxcote Reservoir, Calvert Jubilee, Bernwood Meadows, Pilch Field and Little Linford Wood.
Purpose of the role
To assist the Reserves Officers with the management of the reserves.
Type of work in which you will be involved
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reserves estate work will include habitat management such as vegetation management, maintenance of site infrastructure and boundary fences, and leading regular volunteer groups.</li> <li>• Tools and machinery will include training, use and maintenance of a variety of hand tools and machinery.</li> <li>• Visitor engagement includes assisting with guided walks and events</li> <li>• Reserves livestock includes occasional assistance with stock movements and health checks at our South Buckinghamshire reserves.</li> </ul>
Experience &/or qualifications needed
<p>What you'll have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A positive attitude</li> <li>• A passion for helping nature and being outdoors.</li> <li>• A good level of physical fitness and strength.</li> <li>• Problem solving skills and able to use your own initiative.</li> <li>• Good communication skills</li> <li>• A full driving licence with at least 1 years' experience</li> <li>• Ideally some experience of working /volunteering doing outdoor work.</li> </ul> <p>Who you'll be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committed and passionate about joining our mission to put nature into recovery.</li> <li>• Keen to learn and develop with a can-do approach, whatever the weather!</li> <li>• Someone who is happy to get hands-on with power tools and machinery.</li> </ul>

- 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.  
Actual days are negotiable but preferably 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***
- ***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
- Brush cutter use and maintenance
- Driver awareness

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.

#### **You will be responsible to**

Upper Ray Reserves Officer and North Bucks Reserve Officer

#### **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.