

Volunteer Role Description

Community wild Westonbirt

Community wild Westonbirt volunteers help to develop and deliver a range of activities aimed at enabling young people to engage with the arboretum. The project works with young people from a variety of backgrounds and organisations including, youth clubs, young people with additional needs and at-risk pupils. We also run projects for individual young people, such as Team WB, our own Youth Forum, and Wild Westonbirt, a practical conservation volunteering club for young people.

When

Practical conservation takes place through the year and usually lasts a full or half day. A rota is available and we'd like volunteers to attend one session per month; evening/weekends available. This 4 year externally funded project will be reviewed at the end of 2017.

What's involved?

- ✧ Helping to deliver activities including practical woodland management, basic bush craft such as den building and fire lighting, team work and problem solving challenges, green woodworking and creative arts or crafts; occasionally leading small group activities.
- ✧ Supporting participants to enjoy and enhance their experience of the arboretum.
- ✧ Recognising participant's achievements and personal development to contribute towards their informal education, and the evaluation of the programme.
- ✧ Being a positive role model for appropriate behaviour, use of equipment, health and safety.
- ✧ Occasionally helping with administrative tasks (optional).

We'd like you to be

Enthusiastic with a patient and friendly approach, positive, reliable, with good communication and listening skills, and a willingness to be flexible and help where needed. The ability to remain calm and open minded when working with individuals from all walks of life, and provide support and supervision when working with both groups and individuals. Experience in youth participation projects, working with young people in an informal setting, and knowledge of bushcraft skills and woodland management would be useful.

We will

- ✧ Provide training covering all aspects of the role.
- ✧ Provide tools and equipment with instruction, and personal protective equipment where needed; volunteers do not use chainsaws.
- ✧ Advise that terrain may be uneven, rough or muddy and you will be walking on and off paths in ALL weathers, therefore sturdy boots/shoes are needed.
- ✧ Give you an on-site radio for communication, and provide support in all aspects of the role.
- ✧ Advise that large parts of the day are spent outdoors away from the main site facilities.
- ✧ Pay a contribution to the cost of volunteering travel.
- ✧ Help you to complete the required Disclosure and Barring System checks (DBS).
- ✧ Advise that the minimum age for this role is 18 years.

Please send your application to us

By email at cheryl.pearson@forestry.gsi.gov.uk or by post to Cheryl Pearson, Westonbirt, The National Arboretum, Tetbury GL8 8QS

Recruitment coffee morning Saturday 19 November at 10.30am

To find out more come along to the volunteer recruitment coffee morning in the Great Oak Hall starting at 10.30am, where we'll give you a brief presentation about volunteering at Westonbirt followed by a cuppa and piece of cake whilst you chat to staff and volunteers about our current opportunities.

www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt-community