

Voluntary Trainee Role

Voluntary Trainee Role Title	Location
Transforming Lives Trainee (practical land management)	TTTV scheme area covering parts of Derbyshire and Staffordshire
Supervisor	
Trent Valley – Living Landscapes Officer / Transforming Lives Officer (TTTV)	
Project/Team/Area	
1 x Trent Valley	
Background	
<p>Transforming the Trent Valley is a partnership project funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund covering parts of Staffordshire and Derbyshire. The placement represents a unique opportunity to undertake training and develop skills and knowledge in order to further a career in biodiversity conservation, ecology and practical conservation tasks. The trainee (with support and training) will provide assistance to Transforming the Trent Valley staff in practical habitat management and restoration projects together with some field survey, data analysis and people engagement work.</p> <p>Trainees will be based primarily in the TTTV scheme area but all trainees must be able to attend Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's Head Office at Middleton by Wirksworth and the TTTV office in Rugeley on an occasional basis and also other Trust sites around the County from time to time.</p>	
What is the voluntary trainee likely to be doing?	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the TTTV / Living Landscape reserves practical habitat management programme. 2. Support the TTTV / Living Landscapes team in visitor experience improvements. 3. Assist the TTTV / Living Landscapes team in monitoring and surveying wildlife on nature reserves. 4. Assist with and occasionally lead other volunteers in practical conservation work parties on reserves 5. Assist with maintaining TTTV / DWT vehicles, machinery, equipment and tools on a regular basis so that they are in good working order and are safe to use. 6. Assist the Living Landscapes staff in providing advice to local planning authorities on ecological issues with respect to planning applications. 7. Assist the TTTV / Living Landscapes staff in providing support to land managers and negotiating agreements to facilitate habitat management, restoration and creation. 8. Assist in the delivery of habitat creation and restoration on strategic sites as determined by existing project work, desk study and survey data, including working with teams of volunteers. 9. Assist the TTTV staff with people engagement projects, working with the public and representing the partnership / organization. 10. Assist the Trust's species monitoring programmes: undertake field surveys, co-ordinate volunteer monitors, manage biological records. 	

11. Assist in the inputting, analysis and interpretation of ecological data on the Trust's Geographical Information System and Recorder database/s to assist with the delivery of the Trust's Living Landscape strategy.
12. Ensure that the project's equipment is in good order, clean and safe to use, organising or carrying out regular cleaning and maintenance.
13. Organise and help with the gathering and transport of livestock and ensure that livestock welfare needs are met.

Trainees will gain experience in a wide range of skills, likely to include some or all of the following:

- Practical hands-on experience of land management for nature conservation
- Experience of running events and workshops with the public
- Botanical surveys including Phase I and II vegetation surveys and habitat and species monitoring.
- Use of MapInfo Geographical Information System
- Use of species recording software including.
- Ecological data analysis and interpretation
- Report writing
- Practical habitat management skills
- Experience of working within a busy customer-facing environment
- Training and Qualifications useful in conservation management and other sectors (e.g. equipment / first aid / Health & Safety etc.)
- Practical experience of ecological and visitor survey/research

Trainees can expect:

- Support to achieve a City & Guilds Level 2 in Work Based Environmental Conservation
- Reserve management experience
- Knowledge of nature conservation issues
- Understanding of delivering and organising nature engagement events for the public
- Wider experience in the environmental conservation sector through being part of a multi-disciplinary conservation organisation
- Ongoing personal development towards a career in this sector
- An intensive and high quality experience that will stand out on any CV
- A contribution to travel expenses
- Ongoing personal and career development training and one-to-one support from your line manager and the Volunteering Team staff
- An intensive and high quality experience that will stand out on any CV, as a team member of one of the UK's most vibrant and varied conservation organisations
- An insight into working on a partnership project, gaining links and networks with a number of conservation organisations and local authorities

Person Specification – The experience, knowledge and skills needed for this role

Trainees will need:

- An enthusiastic, friendly and customer-focused attitude
- Good communication skills
- Understanding of current biodiversity and nature conservation issues
- Knowledge of habitat management for nature conservation
- Knowledge of habitat and species survey techniques
- Enthusiasm and willingness to learn new things
- The ability to work with other trainees
- Self-motivated
- Good understanding of ecology / conservation / land management and how to inspire and empower people to take action for wildlife
- Computer literate in word and excel

Does the Trainee need a driver's licence? Preferred. Trainees will need to be able to make their own way to nature reserves and other sites around the county, some of which may not be on public transport routes. If this could cause an issue then please discuss with Transforming Lives Officer

Commitment

2 days a week, flexibility with days and the role will require occasional weekend availability.

Duration

Up to 10 months starting in November 2020

Will the role involve any other sensitive tasks for which we may wish to check suitability via a criminal records check?

All trainees will be asked to complete an identity check and for two references.