



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: **Grounds & Gardening**

Why do we need you?

Our volunteers are pivotal in shaping unforgettable experiences for our visitors. Our Wetland centres help showcase the work WWT does, encouraging visitors to engage with and support wetlands and wildlife. As part of the Grounds and Facilities team you will be helping to maintain the centre and grounds to a high standard thus ensuring our visitors have a great day out.

We are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer who takes pride in a job well done and who has an eye for detail.

Who will be responsible for your role? Grounds and Facilities manager

Where will you be based? WWT Castle Espie Wetland Centre, Comber, Co. Down

How much time will it take? To be agreed - we are looking for commitment from a volunteer to give us regular hours on mutually agreeable days, with a degree of reasonable flexibility.

What will you be doing?

Assisting with the maintenance and development of our grounds, including the car park and sensory garden, to ensure the enjoyment and safety of our visitors. Duties will include:

- Assisting with groundworks, including digging and scrub clearance
- Planting, weeding, pruning, vegetable/fruit production and propagation of plants
- Assisting us to maintain our visitor infrastructure to a high standard including path clearance and renewal, fencing, maintenance of water features, cleaning and maintenance of hides and outside furniture
- Assisting with the supervision of external volunteer groups
- Welcoming and engaging visitors
- Ensuring the safety, welfare and enjoyment of the visiting public
- Promoting the work of WWT to all visitors.

Who are we looking for?

We are seeking people who have the practical experience and are physically able to carry out the required tasks and activities as listed above. This role requires the ability to garden proactively, unsupervised and using your own initiative within the overall vision for the grounds and sensory garden. While no formal qualifications are required an understanding of horticulture and experience of using a variety of horticultural techniques would be desirable. Working outdoors in all weathers you will be someone who can see a task through from inception to completion. You will also be a good team player and have the confidence to help supervise others. As much of your work will be carried out under the gaze of our visitors, you will also need to have a strong commitment to customer satisfaction and a willingness to engage with members of the public from time to time.

How will you benefit?

- This is an excellent opportunity to work within an internationally important wetland site.
- Suitable uniform is provided to all regular volunteers.
- Discount is available in the cafe and shop on the days of volunteering
- Training opportunities will be provided.
- You will gain a volunteering opportunity that enables you to carry out a diverse range of tasks, working in a beautiful location within a great team.
- Free entry to all WWT wetland centres throughout the UK on presentation of your WWT name badge.

General notes:

The hours of this position are at the discretion of the Grounds & Facilities Manager but the centre is open 363 days a year with work required during weekends and public holidays. Operational needs may present opportunities to work in other departments for volunteers who are willing to do so.

Travel to and from the centre is at the volunteers arrangement. We regret that we are not in a position to reimburse expenses incurred for travel to the site.

This position is entirely voluntary and is therefore unpaid. Any offer of a volunteer placement is not intended to create a legally binding contract between us and any agreement may be cancelled at any time at the discretion of either party. Neither of us intends any employment relationship to be created either now or at any time in the future.

Date reviewed: January 2020