



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Locking up and Reserve volunteer

Why do we need you?

At WWT we shape unforgettable experiences for our visitors. We believe the best way for people to understand and connect to wetlands is to experience them, so we bring awe-inspiring nature up close and let it do the talking.

Volunteers are integral to the running of our London Wetland Centre. By volunteering alongside the Centre team, you will be helping us continue to provide our visitors with a great day out and showcase our work to save wetlands for wildlife and people.

Who will be responsible for your role? Reserve Manager

Where will you be based? WWT London Wetland Centre

How much time will it take? 2 days per week
2pm up until 5pm (Winter), 2pm – 6pm (Summer)(flexible timings are also available)

We are ideally looking for a volunteer who can commit at least 12 months of their time with us. We will mutually agree the hours that you can contribute and it would be helpful if you could try to give us as much notice as possible on the occasions when you are not able to contribute those hours.

What will you be doing?

You will mainly be volunteering to assist the management team with the closure of the site as well as supporting the Reserve team with their duties beforehand:

Supporting in the closure of the site

It can take over an hour to close a site the size of ours, so volunteer support is vital in making sure we are not just secure, but leaving our visitors with the best impression of the site as they leave. Tasks will include:

- Making your way around the site directing visitors to the exit and ensuring all areas are cleared
- Locking bird hides and external gates
- Communicating with staff and management as to any issues seen across the site

Supporting the Reserve team:

As a nature reserve, our teams are constantly busy managing the natural conditions across the site as well as making sure external visitor areas are in as good a condition as possible. Before locking the site, there are other duties that can be completed, such as:

- Wild bird monitoring
- Livestock checks and feeding
- Perimeter checks
- Maintenance of bird hides
- Vegetation management

What are we looking for?

This is an ideal role for someone who:

- Has an interest and enthusiasm for the work of WWT
- Is keen and enthusiastic and willing to use or develop these skills and learn about the Centre
- Has a good ability to work as part of friendly, busy team and on their own, at times
- Is prepared to be hands on and enthusiastic for completing practical tasks, including less desirable tasks such as cleaning!
- A love of the outdoors and the natural environment.
- An interest in wildlife conservation, (previous experience or relevant qualifications are useful but not essential).
- Has an excellent ability to communicate effectively with staff and other volunteers
- Is committed to providing excellent customer service
- Is physically fit and happy to work outdoors and in all weathers

How will you benefit?

- Be part of a friendly and dedicated team of staff and volunteers
- This is an excellent opportunity to work within an internationally important wetland site in the UK and to learn useful skills and gain insightful experience in our work across WWT
- An induction will be provided as well as other appropriate training and development opportunities
- A review after the first month to ensure the role is right for you and you are happy to continue
- Suitable WWT uniform and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided
- A discount is available in the cafe and shop on the days of volunteering
- Free entry to all WWT wetland centers throughout the UK on presentation of your WWT name badge.

General notes

We regret that we are not in a position to reimburse travel expenses, however pre-agreed out of pocket expenses incurred in the course of your volunteering activities will be reimbursed. There are a number of public transport routes directly to the London Wetland Centre. Please see our webpage for further details.

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 raised: February 2022