

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Play area maintenance**

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At WWT we shape unforgettable experiences. Washington’s amazing inner grounds have a lot of infrastructure which requires regular maintenance. By volunteering your time with us you will be helping to ensure that Washington’s play area is maintained to the highest standard for our visitors, helping families make memories in our amazing wetlands.

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**Who will be responsible for your role?** Grounds and facilities manager

**Where will you be based?** Washington wetland centre

**How much time will it take?** Between 6 & 10 hours per week with a commitment to a minimum of a 6-month period in order to get the most benefit from your volunteering experience.   
  
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?**

* This role will be varied, and will involve a lot of daily maintenance/minor repair of the play area, including:
* Inspection of play area to identify work required and ensure it is in working order (training will be given in line with our Play Inspection system)
* Cleaning of play equipment and ground surfaces using brushes, mobile jetwash and environmentally safe detergents
* Raking and replenishment of woodchip and sand
* Weeding of play area
* Identifying and undertaking minor repairs of equipment and pathways within the play area
* Managing vegetation around the play area and its pathways

**Who are we looking for?**

* Someone who should be committed to good customer service and willing to engage our visitors with the work of WWT.
* Any volunteer should be able and willing to undertake a range of physical activities outside in all weathers.
* Previous experience with the use of hand tools would be an advantage, although not necessarily a necessity.
* Proactive and able to work with a minimum of supervision, under the direction of the grounds team.
* Must have excellent communication skills and a positive attitude.

**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.
* Free entry to all WWT wetland centres throughout the UK on presentation of your WWT name badge.
* Discount is available in the cafe and shop on the days of volunteering
* Training opportunities could be provided

**General notes:**

You must be able to get yourself to and from the centre.

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:**  July 2025