

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Grounds Support**

**Why do we need you? Why volunteer with us?**

We’re WWT, the charity for wetlands and wildlife. We’re on a mission to restore wetlands because they are a wondrous solution to our world's problems. Together we will unlock their power – and help nature burst back to life. Because when wetlands flourish, all life will flourish.

*We lead the way, bring life, and inspire connection!*

We believe that the best way for people to understand and connect to wetlands is to experience them, so we provide awe-inspiring nature up close. At Slimbridge Wetland Centre, visitors can explore unique wetland habitats and the amazing array of birds, mammals and amphibians that inhabit them. Our volunteers help to welcome and inspire visitors and get to experience looking after our unique habitats and heritage.

Our main **values** enrich our community….

*By* ***restoring*** *our wonderful wetland, we gain deeper connections*

*By* ***inspiring*** *future volunteers, we will inspire others to value, act and benefit from wetlands*

*To* ***Thrive****! We believe our volunteers will thrive in making a more sustainable and inclusive organisation.*

We are looking for some amazing Grounds & Gardens Volunteers to ensure the centre is looking its best for our visitors and maintain habitats for our living collections. We offer plenty of inclusive opportunities to get stuck in and help maintain the grounds and gardens around Slimbridge Wetland Centre, ensuring volunteers have a deep connection with not only our wonderful wetlands but by helping nature bounce back to life. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Who will be responsible for your role?** Assistant Grounds Manager

**Where will you be based?** WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre

**How much time will it take?** Sessions start at 10am and finish around 4pm. We are looking for volunteers to join our team on a Wednesday. A minimum commitment of once a week is preferred. Positions will be available from end of February/early March.

**What will you be doing?**

* Assisting with the development and daily maintenance of the grounds at Slimbridge Wetland Centre.
* Planting, weeding, and pruning.
* Replenishing aggregate and wood chip mulches
* Helping us maintain and clean paths, fences, outdoor furniture, hides and play areas
* Assisting with customers and seasonal vegetation work at our Canoe safari (optional)
* Engaging with visitors about what you’re doing, and the work of the wider WWT
* Ensuring the safety, welfare and enjoyment of our visitors

**Who are we looking for?**

This role will suit you if you:

* Enjoy working outdoors
* Enjoy volunteering as part of a team
* Have a moderate level of fitness
* Have an interest in gardens and the natural environment
* Enjoy engaging with visitors
* Have some knowledge or experience of gardening or conservation (not essential)
* Have a willing and can do attitude
* As nearly all our volunteering roles take place in view of the public, you should have good communication skills and be willing to engage with our visitors to answer any queries and promote WWT as a whole
* You must be 18 or over to apply

**Wetlands for the win! How will you benefit?**

* Volunteer in an inspiring environment and get closer to nature
* Learn new, transferable skills
* Gain valuable work experience, especially in a conservation environment
* Gain a fantastic and inclusive volunteering experience to talk about to a potential employer
* Make a real contribution to the conservation work of WWT
* Free entry to all WWT wetland centres throughout the UK
* Discount in WWT shops and cafes
* WWT uniform provided
* Receive Induction and training
* Become part of a friendly and dedicated team
* Meet new friends and become part of a welcoming and inclusive community
* Experience the physical and mental benefits of the outdoors.

**General notes:**

The exact hours you can contribute will be discussed and mutually agreed prior to placement.

Road: Slimbridge Wetland Centre is 2 miles off the A38. There is a large car park with ample car parking spaces and there is a bike rack available for staff volunteers. Rail: Cam & Dursley rail station is a 3.5 mile cycle or taxi ride away. Bus: Unfortunately there is no bus service directly to Slimbridge: the nearest services stop is at the A38, 2 miles walk 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.

**How to Apply:**

We celebrate inclusivity and diversity amongst our volunteering community and encourage applicants to state any disabilities they have for provided support.

Full details of this and other roles can be found at: [www.wwt.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.wwt.org.uk/volunteer).

Contact us at [volunteer.slimbridge@wwt.org.uk](mailto:volunteer.slimbridge@wwt.org.uk) to state what support you need either in locating the information or filling out the application process so we can cater for your additional needs.

**Date reviewed:**  January 2025