

 **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Grounds Support Team**

**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. Our main values enrich our community:

* By restoring our wonderful wetlands 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 WWT a more sustainable and inclusive organisation.

At our wetland centres we shape unforgettable experiences for our visitors to engage with wetland wildlife and learn more about our pioneering work to conserve wetlands and save species around the world.

In this role you will be providing regular support to the Grounds Team undertaking a range of practical and seasonal tasks. The team plays a vital part in managing the site, keeping it looking ship-shape, safe and tidy for all. You will also be a visible and a key point of contact for visitors around the grounds, helping with orientation and points of interest.

**Wetlands for the win!**

Looking for valuable work experience to gain relevant skills or wanting to spend more time outdoors? Or both? Look no further - a volunteering position with us plays a crucial role in saving wetlands for wildlife and people as well as:

* Being part of a volunteering experience in an inspiring environment and getting closer to nature
* Making a real contribution to the conservation work of WWT
* Learning new, transferable skills and being part of an inclusive volunteering experience
* Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team
* Gaining free entry to all WWT wetland centres throughout the UK on presentation of your WWT name badge, and enjoying a great discount in WWT shops and cafes
* You will be provided with a WWT uniform and receive full induction and training for your role

**This role involves:**

* Assisting with the maintenance of our visitor areas including vegetation weeding, clearing, pruning, coppicing and planting.
* Repairing and maintaining pathways and edging.
* Repairing and replacing timber fences, gates and barriers, painting and preserving where required.
* Preparing the Centre for opening: checking and cleaning paths and rails, emptying bins, and replenishing sanitizer units around the grounds.
* Ensuring the safety, welfare and enjoyment of yourself and our visitors
* Keeping up to date with WWT news and talking to visitors about forthcoming events and activities that may be of interest.

**This role will suit you if:**

You have a can-do attitude and are happy to help us in all weathers, and are both a practical person and physically fit. Having experience maintenance and practical habitat management would be desirable. It’s a close-working team, however, the ability to work under your own initiative and being self-motivated with team lead direction is also needed. Having, or being happy to develop, the confidence to engage our visitors with the work of WWT is also a key part of this role.

**Practicalities**

**Where will you be based?** Arundel Wetland Centre

**Who will you volunteer with?** Grounds Team - led by Sam McKinlay, Collection & Grounds Manager

**Time commitment?** We are looking for volunteers who can ideally commit to 1 or 2 days a week, on a regular basis over Monday to Sunday. Shifts days start at 8.00am and finish at 4.30pm. However, we will mutually agree the hours that you can contribute.

We want your volunteering to be a positive and fun experience. You’ll get a warm welcome, including information on training, equipment and other information you need. This will include risk assessments based on your role and any particular support you need. Volunteers receiveaccess to our sites, and discounts in our shops and cafes. Some roles include a uniform or require the use of equipment or protective clothing.

If you are based at a particular site or office location, you’ll need to be able to get yourself there and back. Information on locations can be found on our [website](https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres). We will keep you up to date with what’s happening across WWT and the difference you will be helping to make happen.

**Interested?**

Full details of this and other roles can be found at [www.wwt.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.wwt.org.uk/volunteer). We celebrate inclusivity and diversity amongst our volunteering community and encourage applicants to state any disabilities they have for provided support. Please state any disabilities in your application form, or contact us at volunteering@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.