



Volunteer Role: Volunteer Reserves Officer (VRO) (Nene Wetlands or Lilbourne)

Support Person	Nominated Reserve Officer
Role Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To contribute to the delivery of the management plan at Nene Wetlands and Summer Leys Nature Reserves. • To provide VRO with increased knowledge, skills and hands-on experience in nature conservation work. • To enhance the opportunities of the VRO to access the professional conservation field.
Specific Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The placement covers typical aspects of the seasonal work required to manage the wide range of habitats including wetland, woodland, and grassland. • Through work at Nene Wetlands and the wider team, the VRO will gain experience in the practical skills involved with the management of an internationally important wetland site for water birds and other Trust nature reserves including: coppicing, tree felling, meadow & wet grassland management, woodland ride management, fencing, livestock management, scrub management, reedbed management, visitor management and access improvements. • Other work will include plant and wildlife surveying, construction and maintenance of structures such as hides, ditches or boardwalks, assisting with volunteer team leadership, risk assessments and practical task management and organisation.
Skills and Qualities Needed	<p>Essential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in pursuing a career in wildlife conservation • Capable of using hand tools, power tools and machinery • Able to work with a range of people from all age groups and backgrounds • Willing to develop skills and standards of workmanship required in wildlife conservation • Self-motivated, flexible and willing to work hard outdoors in all weathers • Willing to supervise and lead others • Valid driving licence <p>Desirable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer literate • Experience of similar work • Relevant education and / or experience • Experience of public engagement
Commitment	3 days per week for a period of 12 months
Support and Training	<p>The volunteer will gain experience in a number of ways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working alongside the Nene Wetlands and wider reserves teams, which holds more than 20 years of experience in nature

	<p>conservation, in the wide range of habitats present in Northamptonshire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-house training (including risk assessment, ecological survey work, livestock management). • Attendance on training workshops (species survey and identification, and habitat knowledge and management), • Formal training certificates in chainsaw, brushcutter and first aid at work
Expectations of WTBCN Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to abide by the Wildlife Trust BCN's Policies and Procedures. • Willingness to use support systems • Co-operation with administrative tasks <i>e.g. filling in expenses forms</i> • Commitment to attend on-going training • Contribute to the safety, welfare and enjoyment of visitors of the WT nature reserves.
Location of volunteering	Based from Nene Wetlands Nature Reserve or Lilbourne Nature Reserve, with travel for training and work on other reserves in the three counties area

Task Description Updated: 20/01/2021