

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Grounds & Exhibit Maintenance Assistant**

**Why do we need you?** At the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust we are involved in creating and conserving wetlands and the species who live in them. At Washington Wetland Centre we develop animal exhibits that will provide appropriate habitat for our collection and enhance the visitor experience. Whilst we have a wealth of experience and a proven track record in scientific research, we need help to maintain and develop these exhibits which include collections of rare and endangered species of waterfowl and wetland mammals including Chilean flamingos and Asian short –clawed otters.

**Who will be responsible for your role?** Collection and Maintenance Keeper

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

**How much time will it take?** 10am – 16:30pm in winter, 10am -17:30pm in summer, one day a week (Friday)

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?**

* Weeding of exhibits
* Cutting back of vegetation in and around exhibits
* Helping us maintain our visitor infra structure to a high standard including path clearance and furnishings.
* Maintaining and improving pond areas and fence lines
* Occasional tasks may include building of nest boxes, feeders and animal shelters; animal care assistance; construction of ponds and enclosures

**Who are we looking for?**

This role would suit you if:

* You are able to work both independently and as part of a team
* You are physically fit, able to lift heavy loads and do not mind working outdoors in all weathers
* A driving licence would be useful
* You are able to communicate effectively, including the ability to interact with visitors you may meet whilst undertaking your role in order to engage them with the work of WWT

**How will you benefit?**

* Working in the fresh air with like minded people
* Exercise and all round fitness with a great view
* Being part of a small and friendly team
* Training in use of tools and vehicles
* Suitable uniform is provided to all regular volunteers
* Discount is available in the cafe and shop on the days of volunteering

**General notes:**

This position may require helping out on other days in addition to rota days but this will be infrequent and will be agreed with your head of department and will be subject to your availability.

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:**  January 2025