**ROLE DESCRIPTION**

**ROLE TITLE: Working for Nature Trainee**

**RESPONSIBLE TO: Working for Nature Programme Manager**

**START DATE: 9th September 2019**

**OVERALL PURPOSE OF ROLE**

This traineeship offers a unique and exciting opportunity to undertake work-based training to develop a practical career in environmental conservation. The aim of the training programme is to seek out people aged 18 years and over who may not have considered a career in nature conservation but have the necessary interests and aptitudes to be successful. Trainees will be based at one of three Wildlife Trusts (Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, or Sheffield and Rotherham) and undertake a range of practical conservation work (such as planting trees and hedges, construction of fences and footpaths, managing habitats to support wildlife). Trainees will spend one day a week undertaking additional ‘off-the-job’ learning at Sheffield Wildlife Trust and have placements with other relevant organisations. Trainees will complete a City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate or Diploma in Work-based Environmental Conservation and gain other certification for their training.

**MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:**

* To undertake work-based training carrying out practical conservation management works on a range of nature reserves and other settings including areas of woodland, moorland, grassland and heathland
* To undertake a programme of off-the-job learning one day a week at Sheffield Wildlife Trust
* To undertake, with support and training, habitat management works and other practical conservation tasks including planting trees and hedges; maintaining boundaries such as hedges, fences and walls; pond management; woodland management; construction and repair of signs and interpretation; construction and repair of footpaths; scrub clearance
* To learn how to identify British flora and fauna and develop appropriate habitat management
* To develop understanding of areas relevant to environmental conservation such as biodiversity, habitats, climate change, legislation, ecosystem services
* To use a range of hand and power tools, with training, working safely and following instructions and guidance
* To assist in the planning of conservation tasks including risk assessment, ordering materials, preparing equipment, booking tools and loading vehicles
* To undertake and complete a programme of City & Guilds Level 2 training in Environmental Conservation and other training as required with support and supervision
* To carry out an independent project in an area of personal interest
* To liaise regularly with project staff including Supervisor, Mentor, Training Officer and Programme Manager
* To engage with staff, volunteers and members of the public in a professional manner
* To ensure all work is undertaken according to (Derbyshire; Nottinghamshire, Sheffield & Rotherham) Wildlife Trust’s policies including those for health and safety, safeguarding, environmental, equal opportunities
* To undertake any other duties as requested by the supervisor and in line with the aims of the Working for Nature project

**TRAINEE SPECIFICATION**

We welcome applications from a wide range of people including those with no prior qualifications and those interested in changing career. Traineeships are not available to graduates in the environmental or conservation fields. We expect candidates to be able to demonstrate in their application that they meet the following trainee specification.

* Aged 18 years or over by the 9th September 2019
* Enthusiastic, committed and passionate about developing a career in nature conservation (demonstrated through work, volunteer or leisure experience wherever possible)
* A willingness to learn, develop and undertake training. This includes training in first aid, use of machinery, carrying out an independent project and undertaking the City & Guilds level 2 Certificate or Diploma in Environmental Conservation
* Willing to learn how to use hand tools (hammer, bow saw, spade etc.) and/or power tools (jig-saw, power drill strimmer, mower etc.)
* Understand health and safety practices when working with tools and undertaking practical work
* A willingness to work outdoors on a range of sites and locations, in all weathers
* Physically able to undertake practical work (digging, lifting, carrying etc.), alone or as part of a team on a daily basis
* Ability to plan and organise time, including a good track record of attendance and timekeeping, which are important when working as part of a team
* A positive and friendly approach and ability to work with people of varying abilities and from a wide range of backgrounds
* An interest in communicating with the public on nature conservation
* Demonstrate a right to live and work in the UK