Volunteer Trainee Role Description

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**IDENTIFICATION OF ROLE**

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**ROLE TITLE** - Living Landscape Trainee

**TERM** - 9 - 12 Months

**TEAM** - Area North

**WORKING BASE** - The successful trainee will work across the Cheshire North region (Wirral, Warrington and Halton and Stockport). From time to time it may also be necessary to travel to our Bickley Hall Farm HQ in Malpas.

**RESPONSIBLE TO** - Area Manager North

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**ROLE DESCRIPTION**

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We are looking for an enthusiastic, determined individual to support our Area North team. This is an exciting opportunity for somebody to gain a broad understanding in a range of conservation work areas including; reserve management, habitat restoration and surveying and monitoring. The skills and experience gained over the course of the placement will put you in good stead for progressing your career within the wildlife conservation sector.

You will be good with people and have a true passion for wildlife conservation. Previous experience is not necessary, however, you will be expected to have a baseline understanding of wildlife conservation issues and land management practices.

Over the traineeship there will be the opportunity to assist the team in delivering a variety of exciting conservation and engagement projects across the following work areas;

1. Estate Management: The team manages a suite of nature reserves that encompass a broad range of priority habitats and species. You will assist our reserves team in a range of land management tasks to help maintain these areas for wildlife and the visiting public.
2. Reviving Red Rocks: A coastal project working on our Red Rocks nature reserve to rejuvenate the fixed sand dunes and monitor the progress of management works to date. There will be opportunities to survey a variety of coastal habitats and monitor species such as birds and natterjack toads.

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**MAIN TASKS**

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Specific tasks associated with this traineeship are likely to include the following;

**Practical land management works:** Assisting with footpath maintenance, fencing, woodland management, grassland restoration, wetland restoration, heathland restoration.

**Surveying & Monitoring:** Supporting staff in a range of habitat and species surveys and help analyse data collected

**Volunteer Work:** Coordinating and delivering practical volunteer task days

**Community Engagement:** Assisting with the planning and delivery of events and the design of promotional materials.

**Practical Arrangements**

* This is a 9 - 12 month long volunteer traineeship. Flexible days can be accommodated but a commitment of three days per week is preferred – this is so that your time as a trainee can be as valuable as possible, by providing us with suitable time to invest in you.
* Travel expenses will be reimbursed at a competitive rate up to a maximum limit.
* We will ask for references before you begin volunteering with us and your continuation in the role is subject to satisfactory completion of a one month trial period, continued good conduct, and reliable attendance.
* The normal working day for CWT is 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday but we may occasionally ask you to help out with events at weekends and evenings if you are available.
* You will be based within our Area North team.
* A full driving license is necessary along with access to your own vehicle and adequate insurance. Public transport is unlikely to be feasible for accessing many of our sites.

**Benefits and Training**

* Access to a wide range of internal training courses
* Access to a small training budget for relevant professional qualifications
* Gain experience of habitat management and surveying across a range of nationally and internationally important wildlife sites
* Gain practical and organisational experience in volunteer management within a conservation organisation.
* Gain experience of working on a broad range of conservation projects
* Assistance with job applications and career progression.

**Trainee Specification**

We are looking for someone with the following qualities and abilities:

* A passion for British wildlife and conservation land management
* A basic understanding of relevant environmental issues and land management practices.
* Enjoys working with the public
* Reliable, proactive and able to use initiative
* Friendly and approachable nature
* Ability to get along with a wide range of people from diverse backgrounds
* Ability to work both alone and as part of a small team
* Good communication skills

**How to Apply:**

If you are interested in this volunteer role then please complete a trainee application form and email it to bstallard@cheshirewt.org.uk if successful you will then be invited along to an interview day.

**Closing date:**

**5th February 2020**

Please ensure your completed volunteer trainee form (along with your CV if you wish) is received as soon as possible.