



Avon



Devon



SOMERSET



Wild Paths – new careers in nature conservation

Role Title:

Practical Conservation & Engagement Trainee (x2 Placements)

Based at:

Avon Wildlife Trust, Grow Wilder, 181 Frenchay Park road, Bristol, BS16 1EL

Mentor:

Matt Cracknell and Shaun Waycott

Type of work the role will be involved with:

Avon Wildlife Trust is the largest local charity working to protect wildlife in the West of England area (formerly the County of Avon - Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire). We care for more than 30 nature reserves, from ancient bluebell woods to Iron Age forts, nationally important wetlands, and wildflower meadows. We run award-winning educational and community programmes and we work with landowners in the wider countryside, to reduce the decline in wildlife by creating a Living Landscape.

This placement will be based at Grow Wilder. This Avon Wildlife Trust 12 acre site is a community hub that champions wildlife gardening, sustainable food growing and land management. We run wildflower nursery from the site which is a platform for learning, engaging community groups and managing different habitats across the site. It a place where people and wildlife thrive in a productive setting.

The trainee will learn about:

- Working with and leading volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds
- Urban conservation and wildlife-friendly food growing
- Managing the wildflower nursery and living seedbanks
- Community engagement and wellbeing programmes
- Wild play and outdoor learning
- Media and communications skills



- Engaging with land partners and other stakeholders
- Scrub clearance, tree felling, coppicing and hedgelaying
- Fencing and reserve infrastructure work
- Surveying and monitoring

All trainees will receive training in key skills such as time management, personal effectiveness, interview and application techniques.

Skills and qualifications you can expect to gain in this role:

- Emergency First Aid at work Level 2
- Health and Safety at work
- NPTC CS30 & 31 Chainsaw maintenance, cross-cutting & felling
- LANTRA Brushcutter
- Volunteer Management AQA accreditations
- AQA unit award scheme accreditations
 - Volunteer Management
 - Conservation grazing
 - Lookering
 - Woodland Management
 - Leading a group
 - Hedgelaying
 - Coppicing
 - Community engagement and inclusion
- Species identification skills
- Hand tool use
- Habitat management and natural history knowledge

Disclosure and barring checks

This role is likely to require a DBS check

Bursary:

£1000 per calendar month for ten months duration

Future progression

This role would provide the ideal background for progression into the sector, working as a conservation or community engagement assistant.

