



Role Title: Practical Conservation Volunteer

Purpose: To assist our Estate Management team in completing various conservation and land management tasks, improving Milton Country Park for its visitors and wildlife.

Type of Employment: Voluntary.

Volunteering Hours: Variable but regular volunteering groups are held on Tuesday and Thursday every week from 9:00am – 12:00pm. Other hours can be arranged in some situations.

Duration: Long-term, ongoing.

Special Requirements: Appropriate clothing and footwear should be worn at all times (e.g. gardening gloves, waterproofs if necessary and outdoor boots with ankle support).

Reporting to: Estate Manager.

Skills/Qualifications/Health criteria:

Our Practical Conservation Volunteers do not need to have any specific prior knowledge or experience in outdoor conservation and land management, but a basic ability to use hand tools is desired. All training will be provided.

The work can be strenuous at times and although we do arrange tasks according to different levels of fitness, we are looking for volunteers who have of a standard of fitness that will allow them to take part in walks around the park on uneven ground, carry tools and undertake moderate aerobic activity e.g. equivalent to general garden maintenance.

We can be fully accommodating of carers and can provide support for people with learning difficulties, although it is important that volunteers can follow simple instructions.

Personal Qualities:

Although the volunteer role does not involve working with the general public, our volunteers are often in contact with the public visiting the park, and therefore we expect them to be polite and helpful wherever necessary, acting as representatives of the Trust. Because this volunteer role will often involve working in small groups, we are seeking volunteers who are accepting of others' differences and see volunteering as an opportunity to develop new relationships as well as learn individual skills.

Main Duties:

Conservation and land management tasks in the park are varied from day to day but often include the following:

- Strimming and grass-cutting
- Using small hand tools e.g. lopper and shears
- Litter-picking
- Planting trees
- Clearing scrubland footpaths
- Dead hedging
- Erecting fences
- Infrastructure maintenance

Potential Risks:

This role involves physical work so volunteers need to ensure that they use safe manual handling procedures and understand their own limitations (communicating these to the Estate Manager when necessary). We ensure that our volunteers use specific equipment only when they are trained to do so, and require our volunteers to use tools responsibly while being aware of others and their surroundings. Our staff are registered first aiders, we have first aid kits available when needed, and we have accident recording procedures and a health and safety policy in place.

What to do if interested:

Register your interest by contacting our Estate Manager: geoff@cambridgesportlakes.org.uk