

Volunteer Ranger

Why do we need you?

Nature needs our help. By 2030, we need 1 in 4 people to be taking action for nature. Spending time in nature-rich spaces helps to improve our own health and wellbeing. Our volunteers play a key role in helping to create and protect valuable habitats for nature and connecting local people with the wildlife in their area.

Do you have a passion for looking after your local nature reserve?

We're looking to grow our team of Volunteer Rangers to help look after our reserves when they're at their busiest and to inspire more people to take action for nature.

What will you be doing?

Volunteer Rangers will walk round one or more of our nature reserves:

- Chatting to visitors, answering any questions and making them feel welcome
- Providing information about wildlife, habitats and management - and any hidden gems they may not have spotted
- Thanking visitors for behaving in a way that helps nature and asking others to do the same (e.g. keeping dogs' paws on paths / cycling on bridleways only / no BBQs)
- Monitoring and reporting any issues on the reserve to staff
- Litter picking
- Counting / surveying visitors and how they are using the reserve

You're welcome to bring your well-behaved dog on a lead on a patrol, keeping paws on paths of course.

What skills or experience are needed to do this role?

- Friendly and engaging approach
- Confidence in chatting to visitors
- Flexible and adaptable
- Basic level of fitness - please ask us about accessibility of our reserves
- Happy to patrol without staff support

Where is the role based?

One or more of:

- Crabtree Ponds
- Moss Valley Woodlands
- Woodhouse Washlands

Reserves info here: www.wildsheffield.com/discover/nature-reserves/

Times and commitment

This role is flexible. You can patrol when it works best for you. You can go out on your own, or you can patrol in pairs / small groups.

We'd like you to share weekend, school holidays and bank holiday patrols. But this isn't essential. You will need to volunteer for at least 4 hours each month.

When you are on patrol, you will need to follow the Trust's processes for keeping you and others safe and look after the kit you'll be given.

What's in it for you?

- Chance to spend time on one of our nature reserves.
- Knowing that you're helping nature.
- Chatting to visitors to help them enjoy the reserve with wildlife in mind.
- Being with other people who share an interest in nature.
- Training and support to do your role.
- Experience of volunteering in the wildlife and nature sector.
- A branded vest, badge or backpack cover (you can choose which) so that visitors to the site know you are an SRWT volunteer.

Will out of pocket expenses be paid?

Yes. We can pay any out of pocket travel expenses and in some cases, cover the cost of your lunch (up to a maximum claim), in line with the Trust's expenses policy.

If you're interested please email: volunteering@wildsheffield.com. Let us know which reserve(s) you would like to support. We'll be in touch to arrange a chat to make sure the role is right for you. A tour of the site, training and support will be given before you start.

