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# Volunteer role description

**Role title:** Young Ranger (open to 13-18 yrs.)

Team/Group: Keeping it Wild - Youth Activism

Your volunteer leader: Laura Bacon – People and Nature Officer – Skylarks

Miriam Lawley - Reserve Ranger - Attenborough

Dace Fenton – Reserve Ranger – Idle Valley

Natilee-Joy Alderson- Reserve Ranger – Rainworth Heath

Volunteering base: Idle Valley Nature Reserve- Retford DN22 8QH

Attenborough Nature Reserve- Beeston NG9

6DY (No Duke of Edinburgh volunteering accepted at this site)

Skylarks Nature Reserve- Lady Bay

Nottingham NG12 2LU

Rainworth Heath - Mansfield NG21 0HL

# Why we need this role

Young people are **vitally important** to the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's mission to protect wildlife and to enhance habitats and the environment. We are passionate about offering exciting and valuable opportunities for young people, enabling them to make a positive difference through practical activities and learn new skills by meeting and working alongside our team and staff.

We believe young people are our champions now and importantly in the future. Our 'Young Ranger' youth volunteering program offers a fantastic opportunity to engage with our wildlife work, inspiring Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust with new ideas and taking part in our work with passion and energy.

#### What this role involves

As a member of the 'Young Ranger' team, this volunteering role for 13 – 18yrs is about taking **action** for nature.

The Young Ranger teams meet on a monthly basis to carry out a wide variety of activities which can involve helping with wildlife work and monitoring nature, community events and practical conservation,

We meet at 4 of our Wildlife Trust reserves for sessions running from 10am till 1pm, we do almost all of our activity outdoors and we ask young people to be prepared and to dress for the weather. Depending on the activity, we recommend wearing something not too precious (which can get messy), with sturdy footwear or wellies when required. If outdoor clothing is a barrier to you getting invovled please do speak to us as we aim to support where we can.

We provide the tools and personal protective equipment such as gloves to all members of the team

# Experience and skills needed

No specialist skills are required we just request our team members to be **motivated**, **passionate** and **enthusiastic** about the environment and wildlife.

New members need to feel able to work as part of a team to help improve the environment and to encourage others to do so and be willing to try new things and learn new skills whilst having great fun too!

Diversity and inclusion are extremely important to us, we are committed to creating an environment where young people from all backgrounds\* are welcomed, listened to, and valued. We encourage applications from young people currently underrepresented in the environmental movement. e.g., races, sexualities, gender expressions, people both neurodivergent and neurotypical and people with different physical abilities

# Benefits and training opportunities

#### You will:

- Meet new people and make new friends.
- Have fun and be part of a team that makes a real difference.
- Be able to take part in unique wildlife opportunities with local experts.
- Help protect your local environment in a hands-on way, encouraging more people to care about wildlife in the future.
- Feel more connected to nature, the community and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.
- Represent the trust and help plan events, projects and campaigns.
- Gain valuable experience in many areas that will help you with your future career/learning paths, your personal development and gain valuable life skills.

#### Commitment

A **minimum of 8 sessions** in a year as part of the program, we do realise that you may have other commitments come up throughout the year and ask that you communicate with the leader about not being able to attend. We encourage and support you to consider new opportunities as you reach the upper age limit of the group. New opportunities could be to become a member of the Keeping It Wild youth team.

# Duration of role

Ongoing until you reach the upper age limit.

# References required? NA

All volunteers are asked to agree to our Volunteer Code of Conduct

If you are under 18yrs we will require parent/guardian consent which is included in the application form

Click her to complete an online application form

# www.nottinghmamshirewildlife.org/get-involved