

# Natural Prospects Trainee Walsall Council Placement

### **Role Description**

Project Manager Natural Prospects Coordinator Line Manager Strategic Development Officer

Location BasedatWalsall

#### **Background**

Our vision is for Birmingham and the Black Country to be a Living Landscape alive with nature and rich in wildlife that is valued, enjoyed and protected by everyone. To help achieve this vision, we are delivering the Natural Prospects training scheme, recruiting 24 trainees over 4 years and equipping them with the necessary skills, accreditation and support needed to get a job in Birmingham & Black Country's nature conservation sector. The scheme aims to increase the diversity of people working in nature conservation, and will target people from BAME groups, people from economically deprived backgrounds and nongraduates.

Trainees will be employed by the Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country (WTBBC), this placement being based at **Walsall MBC**, **Environmental Depot**, **200 Pelsall Road Brownhills WS8 7EN** and additional sites across Walsall.

Trainees will receive work-based training in practical conservation activities, community engagement, visitor experiences, and public events by supporting staff across a range of venues and sites in the Walsall area. This will be underpinned by a grounding in health and safety practice, communicating with members of the public and supporting range of community events. All Natural Prospects trainees will receive training in additional skills that are needed to start a career in the urban conservation sector e.g. First Aid at Work and customer care. Trainees will also have a personalised budget enabling them to access specialist training such as chainsaw, brushcutter and spraying tickets and be given the chance to develop these skills in the work place.

Trainees will be required to keep a portfolio documenting their achievements and progress throughout the year. This will provide the evidence to qualify for a City & Guilds Work-Based Certificate in Workbased Environmental Conservation, demonstrating to future employees that they have the necessary skills, experience and competencies to undertake a practical role in the sector.

## **Main Objectives**

To develop skills and experience needed to begin a career in the urban conservation sector.

#### **Key Responsibilities**

- To participate in formal and work based training under the guidance of WTBBC and Walsall Council staff members
- To carry out day-to-day practical conservation work at Walsall Council nature reserves and parks
- To deliver public facing events and activities to engage local communities in their natural heritage
- To follow risk assessments and adhere to health and safety requirements and regulations
- To maintain a portfolio of evidence throughout the traineeship, recording all work undertaken in order to achieve the City & Guilds level 2 Work-Based Certificate in Environmental Conservation.
- To support the Reserves and parks team in the delivery of work relating to key species, habitats and reserve infrastructure across the relevant sites.

#### Other items

- Attend such meetings as may be required
- To work with colleagues and undertake other duties as requested by your line manager to further the organisations strategic goals
- The nature of this post means that occasional out of hours and weekend working will be required, for which time off in lieu will be granted
- To abide by all policies including equal opportunities and health & safety

#### **General Terms and Conditions**

**Payment** £9,000 tax-free bursary paid in monthly instalments. N.B. 10% of bursary will

be retained and paid on completion of the City & Guilds award

**Hours of Work** Full-time: 37.5 hours per week

Some weekend and evening work required for which time off in lieu will be granted

**Duration of post** 12 month placement starting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and ending 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Holidays** 25 days plus statutory public holidays

Place of work Based at Walsall Arboretum, Lichfield St, Walsall WS42BU and additional sites

across Walsall, but the trainee will be required to work at other sites and nature

reserves in Walsall from time to time

**Safeguarding** A DBS check will be required as part of this role

#### **Applications**

Deadline for applications is 5pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 17th November 2020

Complete the attached application form and returned via email to <a href="mailto:recruitment@bbcwildlife.org.uk">recruitment@bbcwildlife.org.uk</a>

If you have any queries about this role please contact Jen Jones on 0121 523 0094 or 07791 070895

**Person Specification** 

		Essential	Desirable		
Specific Criteria	<ul> <li>Must meet one of the following criteria:         <ul> <li>Living in economically deprived area or receiving benefits, or</li> <li>No higher education qualifications, or</li> <li>Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Background (BAME)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Minimum age 18</li> </ul>				
	Ability to travel to locations where traineeships are based				
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Motivation	Passion for wildlife/conservation and ambition to pursue a career in the land based sector				
	Willingness to work towards a qualification and take responsibility for learning and development				
	Self-motivated with ability to use initiative and work independently to achieve personal goals				
	An interest and enthusiasm for practical outdoor work, throughout the year				
Qualifications	Minimum GCSE/O-level or equivalent level of education				
Experience	Experience of participation in related activities, including voluntary roles or Natural Prospects taster days, making positive contributions to local community				
	Experience of working with hand and/or power tools				
	Applicants are not required to have previous work experience or current employment				
Knowledge	An interest in and appreciation of local wildlife and conservation activities				
	Knowledge of Birmingham & Black Country, its people, wildlife and wild spaces				
	Ability to undertake and practical work as required				
	A good understanding of health and safety and safe working methods when working outside and using tools				
Skills	Excellent time keeping				
	Able to prioritise and organise time and resources effectively				
	An ability to inspire and enthuse others				
	Full clean UK driving license				
Workwith others	Team player, keen to engage or lead others in wildlife conservation work.				
	An understanding and commitment to equal opportunities				
Communications	BasicIT and communication skills (Email & Microsoft Office)				