# Love Your River Cole Trainee Role Description

**Background**

The [Love Your River Cole](http://www.tamevalleywetlands.co.uk/lyric-green-recovery/) (LYRiC) project is a partnership project to help transform the Cole Valley, enhancing natural spaces and training local people to look after this important natural river corridor.

With funding from the Green Recovery Challenge Fund, the project is led by Tame Valley Wetlands, and includes a range of partners: The B37 project, Birmingham City Council, Castle Bromwich Hall & Gardens Trust, North Warwickshire Borough Council, The Prince’s Trust, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

The project will involve tree planting, wildflower meadow creation and wetland habitat enhancements, as well as access improvements to paths and trails through several key sites.

As part of the project, Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust is coordinating a trainee scheme, through which we are recruiting three full-time trainees. The scheme aims to give trainees the experience and accredited training required to pursue a career in the environmental sector. The three 12 month placements are with:

* Warwickshire Wildlife Trust based at Hams Hall Environmental Centre in Coleshill (B46 1GA)
* Warwickshire Wildlife Trust based at Brandon Marsh in Coventry (CV3 3GW)
* Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens Trust based in Castle Bromwich (B36 9BT)

The programme aims to equip trainees with the skills, accreditation and support needed to start a career in the nature conservation sector. The scheme aims to increase the diversity of local people working in nature conservation, and will target people from BAME groups, people from economically deprived backgrounds and non-graduates.

Trainees will receive work-based training in practical conservation and community engagement activities, with guidance from staff across the partnership at a range of venues and sites. This will be underpinned by a grounding in health and safety practice, communicating with members of the public and supporting a range of community events. All LYRiC 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 leadership.

Trainees will receive a paid bursary of £9,000 over 12 months and will also have a personalised budget to purchase personal protective equipment and to access specialist training such as chainsaw and brush-cutter licences or forest school training.

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 or Diploma in Environmental Conservation, demonstrating to future employers 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 staff members
* To carry out day-to-day practical conservation and community engagement work at various nature reserves and open spaces with staff and/or volunteers
* To deliver public facing events 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 complete and achieve the City & Guilds level 2 Work-Based Certificate or Diploma in Environmental Conservation.
* To support the Conservation 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 undertake other duties as needed to support your placement organisation’s goals
* The nature of this post means that occasional out of hours and weekend activities will be required, for which time off in lieu will be granted
* To abide by all policies including equal opportunities and health & safety policies

## General Terms and Conditions

**Payment**  £9,000 tax free bursary paid in monthly instalments. 10% of bursary will be retained and paid on completion of the City & Guilds award

**Hours** Full-time: 35 hours per week

Some weekend and evening work required

**Duration** 12-month placement from 29th March 2021 2021 to 25th March 2022

**Holidays** 25 days plus statutory public holidays

**Locations** The three trainee placement are based with:

* Warwickshire Wildlife Trust based at Hams Hall Environmental Centre in Coleshill (B46 1GA)
* Warwickshire Wildlife Trust based at Brandon Marsh in Coventry (CV3 3GW)
* Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens Trust based in Castle Bromwich (B36 9BT)

In addition to these all trainees will be required to attend various sites and nature reserves across the Cole Valley including EcoPark in Small Heath, Glebe Farm Recreation Ground, Meriden Park and Cole End Park.

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

**Person Specification**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Specific Criteria** | Must meet one of the following criteria:   * Living in economically deprived area or receiving benefits, or * No higher education qualifications, or * Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Background (BAME) |  |  |
| Minimum age 18 |  |  |
| Ability to travel to locations where traineeships are based |  |  |
| **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 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 helping people connect with their local natural environment |  |  |
| Knowledge of local areas, communities 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 |  |  |
| **Work with others** | Team player, keen to engage or lead others in wildlife  conservation work or engagement activities |  |  |
| An understanding and commitment to equal opportunities |  |  |
| **Communications** | Basic IT and communication skills (Email & Microsoft Office) |  |  |

## Applications

Deadline for applications has is **5pm on Monday 8th February 2021**

We aim to interview on **Monday 1st March or Wednesday 3rd March 2021**

Please complete the attached application form and return via email to [recruitment@bbcwildlife.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@bbcwildlife.org.uk)

If you have any queries about these roles please contact Jen Jones on 07791 070 895