



## Wildlife Ambassador

### Reserve, Project, Team or Area

Yorkshire Wide- Liaising with membership team in York office

### Volunteer Manager

Amelia McNair– Wildlife Supporter Manager

### Why do we need this volunteer?

Our habitats for wildlife in Yorkshire are diverse, though many species face threats from many things including; development and intensive agriculture. We're working hard ensure nature stands a chance. We do this in this in many ways from frontline conservations works, campaigning and lobbying for change. One of our strongest lobbying tools is our amazing members, who stand by our side when we fight to save Yorkshire's wildlife.

Our Wildlife Supporter Officers are usually the first point of contact for all our members, they are tasked with engaging with the public to make them aware of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, our work and encourage them to support us through membership. They work all across Yorkshire at our gateway sites, nature reserves and at events such as the Yorkshire Show and country fairs. As a Wildlife Ambassador you would be assisting the WSO by talking to visitors at our sites and going to events with them, or you could fly solo and attend events local to you once you find your feet.

We'd like you to share your wildlife stories with people you meet, for example that could be your love of puffins and where people may expect to see them, or your knowledge about another particular species or habitat and how we can protect it. Whatever your wildlife passion, you will be helping to spread the word in your ambassadorial role by raising awareness of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust through telling stories that will inspire people to take action for wildlife.

We'd like to hear from you if; you enjoy being part of a team of passionate individuals, enjoy talking to people about the importance of nature conservation, would like telling our stories and be able to actively encourage people to join as members should the moment arise and you were happy to do so. The role will be based from for York for training and your staff contact, however we want volunteers based across Yorkshire.

### What will you be doing?

As a Wildlife Ambassador you will enjoy talking to people and sharing your passion for why we need to protect wildlife and our wild spaces in Yorkshire. You will assist Wildlife Supporter Officers at large events and you will also have the opportunity to attend events alone.

Tasks will include:

- Assisting staff WSO's at large events to help us reach more people.
- Providing the people you talk to with small/interactive table top activities such as colouring in or games with children or adult focussed activities.
- Running information stalls at events that could be local to you to promote Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and help us engage with new audiences.

- Proactively seeking and suggesting events close to their own homes that you could attend.
- Being ambassadors for Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to raise awareness of our organisation.
- If comfortable, join up new members in a friendly and informative manner (this is not essential).
- Engage with the public communicating “onward messages” and how else they can get involved.
- Liaising with volunteer manager regarding availability for diary events.

### **Experience, knowledge and skills needed for this role**

On day one you’ll have:

- Ability to share knowledge clearly and inspire others
- An infectious passion for nature and being outdoors
- Willingness to have fun outdoors in all weathers
- Capable of working on your own and with others
- Reliable and punctual
- Good communication skills
- Awareness of yours and others safety

Desirable or a willingness to learn:

- Knowledge of the natural environment and British Wildlife
- Experience of presenting to a wide audience

**Does the volunteer need a driver’s license?** Ideally, as some sites are remote. However we may be able to organise lift shares with WSO’s.

### **What’s in it for the volunteer?**

- A chance to inspire others about the natural world
- A chance to attend fun events such as food festivals and county shows
- Development of communication skills
- Development of engagement skills
- Access to the Volunteer training programme
- Be part of a fun and inspiring team
- A chance to learn more about Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, our many nature reserves and varied wildlife

### **Where is the role based?**

York office as base. However, we would hope to attract volunteers from all over Yorkshire.

### **Commitment**

Weekly/once a fortnight /once a month- the role can be flexible to suit volunteer. Volunteers will be emailed a diary with future event dates each month and then they can choose which dates to volunteer. They can also find and book events near to where they live.

### **Duration** Ongoing

March to September are the busiest months, but we will need volunteers all year round.

### **Does this role involve working with children or vulnerable adults?**

Families and children will be present at many events but you would not be working alone with children, young or vulnerable adults.

**Will the role involve any other sensitive tasks for which we may wish to check suitability via references or a criminal records check?**

Yes – membership forms will contain confidential bank and other details. Cash donations may be taken and also merchandise such as cuddly toys and books sold. We will require two references for the role.