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| YWT Main Trust logo | |
| **Volunteer Wildlife Ambassador** |  | |
| **Reserve, Project, Team or Area** | | |
| Yorkshire Wide- Liaising with membership team in York office | | |
| **Volunteer Manager** | | |
| Amy Cooper – Membership Events and Venues Assistant | | |
| **Why do we need this volunteer?** | | |
| Do you have a passion for Wildlife? Are you keen to share your wildlife stories with people you meet? If this sounds like you then our Wildlife Ambassador role would be perfect for you.  Yorkshire has an incredibly diverse range of habitats which require a variety of approaches and solutions to ensure nature and species at risk stands a chance in our rapidly-changing world. YWT is involved in many different projects, from frontline conservation work to campaigning and lobbying for change. One of our strongest lobbying tools are our amazing members, who stand by our side during our fight to save Yorkshire’s wildlife.  As a Wildlife Ambassador your role will be instrumental in assisting our Wildlife Supporter Officers (WSOs). Our Wildlife Supporter Officers are usually the first point of contact for many new members, as 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 across Yorkshire, from our gateway sites and nature reserves to other events such as large county shows and smaller nature-themed events. You will be assisting the WSOs by attending events with them, and providing support by helping to set up stalls, running interactive activities and talking with members of the public about shared interests in conservation with the aim to promote the charity and its purpose.  We are particularly keen for you to share your wildlife stories with people you meet; it could be anything from your love of puffins and where people may expect to see them, to 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 and raise awareness of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust’s goals through telling stories that will inspire people to take action for wildlife.  We’d love to hear from you if you enjoy talking to people about the importance of nature conservation, running activities for children and adults, and encouraging people to take action to save Yorkshire and its wildlife. It’s also a great opportunity to see more of Yorkshire, and to enjoy some wildlife-themed large and small-scale events!  The role will be based from for York for training and your staff contact, but we are keen to have volunteers based across Yorkshire. | | |
| **What will you be doing?** | | |
| As a Wildlife Ambassador you will enjoy talking to people and sharing your passion for protecting wildlife and our wild spaces in Yorkshire. You will assist Wildlife Supporter Officers at large events, talking with members of the public to engage them and running educational activities for adults and children.  Tasks will include:   * Assisting Wildlife Supporter Officers (WSOs) at large events to help us reach more people. This will involve helping WSOs to set up and take down the stall, talking with members of the public about your passion for wildlife, and providing assistance with transactions and memberships where necessary. * Facilitating small and interactive table-top activities with children and adults, ranging from colouring in to YWT-developed educational activities. * Managing the contactless donation boxes and encouraging donations. * Chatting to the public on a regular basis about how they can get involved and what changes they can make, from joining Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and supporting our projects to small home-based changes. * Liaising with the volunteer manager regarding availability for diary events. * Being ambassadors for Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to raise awareness of our organisation. | | |
| **Experience, knowledge and skills needed for this role** | | |
| Essential:   * A passion for nature, conservation and being outdoors * An outgoing and friendly personality * Good communication and teamwork skills * Previous experience running activities for a range of groups * The ability to work independently and take the initiative * Awareness of yours and others’ safety   Desirable:   * Knowledge of the natural environment and British Wildlife * Previous experience in a customer-facing role * Experience of presenting to a wide range of audiences   **Does the volunteer need a driver’s license?** Ideally, as some sites are remote and due to current Covid policy lift-shares are not available. However we may be able to organise lift shares with WSOs once restrictions are lifted. | | |
| **What’s in it for the volunteer?** | | |
| * Development of communication and public-facing skills * Development of engagement and leadership skills * A chance to learn more about Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, our many nature reserves and varied wildlife, and to understand more about the importance of conservation. * Access to the Volunteer training programme * A chance to attend fun events such as food festivals and county shows! | | |
| **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?** | | |
| As membership forms and retail sales will contain confidential bank and other details as well as handling cash, we will require two references for this role. Please see volunteer application form for further details. | | |
| **Closing Date for Applications**  9am Thursday 6th May. Interviews will be held week commencing 17th May 2021 | | |