

## Job description

**Job title:** Community Ecologist,

**Team:** Communities and Engagement

**Responsible to:** Urban Nature Recovery Manager

**Responsible for:** Volunteers

**Working base:** Avon Wildlife Trust HQ, 17 Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5QT with all Avon Wildlife Trust owned or managed sites.

### Overall purpose of job

Provide guidance to community groups and organisations, to support the creation and management of wildlife habitats and ecologically connected landscapes.

### Main responsibilities

- Support community-led action by providing accessible ecological reports, workshops, information, and encouragement to create space for nature in a variety of settings.
- Host a regular community advisory service that provides ecological advice on enhancing green and blue spaces for wildlife across South Gloucestershire, supporting Local Nature and Climate Action Plans
- Provide a series of accessible training courses and talks for members of the public and community organisations, both in person and online.
- Support the development of an active Community Nature Reserve movement.
- Use GIS mapping tools to document habitat creation and ecological connectivity, ensuring alignment with Community Nature Reserves and Local Nature and Climate Action Plans. Analyse data to evaluate the impact of implemented actions.
- Provide support to species monitoring volunteers.
- Lead wildlife walks in a variety of settings to a wide range of audiences.

## Job specification

### Management and Supervision

- This role has no line management responsibility.
- The post will supervise the work of volunteers.

### Accountability and Resources

- Responsible for planning, delivering, and evaluating effective training programmes and resources for communities to support nature's recovery.
- Responsible for providing accurate and accessible advice, including written reports, to support ecological connectivity through the landscape.
- Responsible for influencing and mapping strategic habitat creation to support community nature reserve networks across South Gloucestershire.

### Job Impact

- People and organisations will be directly supported to make space for nature in their neighbourhoods increasing the quality of life for all residents.
- A wide range of people will develop knowledge and understanding to support the creation and ongoing management of nature-rich neighbourhoods.
- Volunteers will develop their knowledge and understanding of wildlife species and habitats.

### Independence and Judgement

- Ability to exercise judgement and independence with agreed levels of responsibility and autonomy.
- A variety of work activities, often working independently and co-delivering activities with colleagues.

### People and Contacts

- Provide regular contact and communication with community groups, Parish and Town Council's and local residents.
- Develop supportive partnerships with local organisations, and community groups.
- Work collaboratively with South Gloucestershire Council and other partner organisations

### Creativity and Innovation

- Develop and deliver inspiring community workshops which enable people to create and care for nature-rich neighbourhoods.
- Creation of training programmes and associated resources which engage, teach, and inspire a wide range of people about ecology and conservation.

## Working conditions

- Work is both outdoors and indoors/desk based.
- Some physical outdoor work in all weathers.
- Some regional travel will be expected.
- You may be required to work from other Avon Wildlife Trust hubs and at a range of locations around the West of England area.
- Some evening and weekend work as necessary (TOIL awarded).
- Optional home working by prior agreement with your line manager.
- You will not be required to work outside of the UK.

## Person specification

### **E = essential criteria. D = desirable criteria**

Please note - we have robust safeguarding procedures in place. This post is subject to a successful enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check if applicable, and we will require two workplace references.

### Experience

- Proven experience, and confidence in, providing ecological advice for habitat creation and land management for a range of settings. (E)
- Experience of delivery of training and workshops that capture the interest of, and engage a wide range of audiences (E)
- Experience of creating a range of small-scale wildlife habitats, particularly in urban settings (E)
- Experience of working collaboratively with a wide range of people (D)
- Responsibility for managing diverse workstreams (D)
- Experience of creating ecological advisory resources in a range of formats. (D)

### Competence, knowledge and skills

- Excellent knowledge and understanding of nature conservation principles and practices (E)
- Excellent knowledge and understanding of UK environmental legislation relating to habitats and biodiversity (E)
- Good knowledge of local nature recovery strategies (D)
- Good working knowledge and experience of GIS mapping programmes (E)
- High level of communication skills, both orally and written (E)
- Excellent inter-personal skills, including management of long-term stakeholder relationships (E)
- Highly literate and numerate (E)
- Confidence to develop new ideas and approaches (D)
- Hold a full driving licence and have access to own vehicle. (E)

## Personal qualities

- Passionate about the value of healthy ecosystems and connected habitats for the protection of wildlife for the future
- A self-starter, able to manage varied workstreams
- Creative and innovative
- Positive and outward-looking
- Confident and clear communicator with a genuine desire to work in collaboration with others
- Interest in wildlife and nature conservation and supportive of the aims of the Wildlife Trusts.

## Committed to our values:

- o **Passion** – We behave with belief and passion for the cause, recognising the urgency required to tackle the ecological and climate emergencies.
- o **Inspiration** – We recognise our role in enabling, empowering, and inspiring all people to take action for nature
- o **Innovation** – We know that to achieve change we must use our initiative, push boundaries, and challenge ourselves to improve our knowledge and understanding