

Welcome to Volunteering with The Conservation Volunteers



Volunteering – the benefits to you

Volunteering with The Conservation Volunteers offers everyone the opportunity to learn new skills and make a difference to their community.

Our volunteering activities can improve your fitness & mental wellbeing, combining outdoor exercise, contact with nature, and the social benefits of working with a group of people.

"I generally feel like a better person for being here, working out in the fresh air. It's done wonders to my confidence and given me ideas about what I'd possibly like to do in the future. Thank you all so much for everything"

Gemma, TCV volunteer



What to expect

A warm welcome

We are delighted when people join our team, whether new to TCV or returning friends.

There are always new activities to get involved in, interesting skills to learn and like-minded people to meet.

Easy to join us

TCV has projects across the UK and offers a range of activities suitable for all levels of experience and fitness. We make it easy to volunteer with us and you can join in with our activities as little or as often as you wish.

Keeping you safe and equipped

We are committed to keeping you safe with us. You will be supported in our activities by a fully trained leader, receive safety briefings and the tools and protective clothing needed to do the job. We may also be able to signpost you to other organisations if you need support beyond our skills and experience.

Many ways to join in and volunteer with TCV

We undertake lots of different activities in both urban and rural areas, from planting trees and wildflower meadows, to building stiles, clearing footpaths or creating new food growing projects.



It feels good to be part of a team doing something positive for your local environment, and we believe that every day you will learn new skills, meet new people and make a real difference to our community and green spaces.



Be a TCV Volunteer

You can join in many of our activities on a drop in basis, as little or as often as you like. All we ask is that the first time you join us, you complete a welfare form with information to help us look after you during your time with us.

Please contact your local TCV office for volunteering opportunities, or do a postcode search on our website to see what's happening near you:



[www.tcv.org.uk/getinvolved/
volunteering](http://www.tcv.org.uk/getinvolved/volunteering)

Want to get more involved?

We have more involved volunteering roles for people who want to support our staff to run projects, or even to learn how to lead our work – great for those already experienced who want to share their skills or who want to grow their skills and confidence on a regular basis.

Volunteer Officers (VOs) and Key Volunteers (KVs) will receive support from a trained line manager to oversee their training and development.



Be a Volunteer Officer

You will learn to plan, organise and lead ongoing community or environmental projects with TCV. Volunteer Officers guide volunteers on practical projects and help them make the most of their experience.

A VO will have:

- A manager to oversee training & development.
- Genuine responsibility that helps build your vocational skills.
- A comprehensive training package including first aid, project leadership and safeguarding, plus access to our online learning system.
- Any other training identified locally for your role
- Travel expenses where budgets permit.
- TCV T-shirt & outer layer (hoodie/waterproof).
- Access to the Countryside Job Service search to look for jobs in this field.
- As this is a position of responsibility, you will
- require DBS and other safeguarding checks.



Be a Key Volunteer

Key volunteers provide valuable support to staff and VOs and help us run our ongoing environmental and community projects. This is not a leadership or supervisory role.

A KV will have:

- A manager to oversee training and development.
- Essential training includes Safeguarding and
- Risk Assessment plus access to TCV's online training system.
- Any other training identified locally for your role.
- Where budgets permit other training may be available to meet local needs.
- Travel expenses where budgets permit.
- TCV T-shirt.

Some of our key volunteer roles may require DBS and other safeguarding checks.





TCV
The
Conservator
Volunteers

What you can expect from us

A friendly welcome to TCV

The opportunity to meet new people and practise new skills in different environments.

Safe working conditions

- Well organised and risk managed projects
- Information, training and support to work safely.
- Essential safety wear like gloves,
- Appropriate, well maintained, fit for purpose tools
- Safeguarding, health & safety essential to activities.

Valuing our volunteers

- Inappropriate behaviour is challenged, not accepted.
- Regular and constructive feedback.
- Out of pocket expenses can be reimbursed where budgets permit.
- Your records will be kept in confidence.
- Any concerns you have about the behaviour of staff or volunteers can be raised with staff on the project or through our online feedback & complaints system.
- Feedback will be appreciated & listened to, helping us to make volunteer experiences even better.

You will be thanked for your contribution

What we expect from you

We aim to create a supportive environment and request that you do the following while with TCV:

Personal Welfare

- Complete a TCV Welfare Form with basic personal information to help us keep you safe.
- Let us know of any changes to your health or address & phone number. This helps us to look after you and let you know of any changes.
- Wear clothing & footwear suitable for work outdoors.
- Bring a packed lunch & water if on all day projects.


Health and safety of yourself and others

- Listen to safety briefings & follow leader instructions.
- Use tools safely and correctly as instructed.
- If you don't understand, or need support, please ask.
- Use of alcohol or drugs on site is not tolerated.

Treat all staff & volunteers with consideration

- Respect diversity, equality & confidentiality.
- Avoid inappropriate, suggestive or threatening language.
- Do not engage in any behaviour of a sexual nature directed towards others whilst volunteering
- Arrive for sessions on time & work to the timetable.
- Work together and share tools.

We will always endeavour to resolve concerns amicably. However, we cannot support volunteers who compromise the safety or inclusive nature of our groups, and anyone doing so may be asked to leave.



**I understand what is
expected of me to help TCV
maintain a safe and
inclusive environment**

Volunteer & date

TCV staff & date

okay



Staff can scan and store this page so you can
keep all this booklet's information one place

Comments and Concerns

TCV welcomes feedback as it helps us to continue to improve the way we work. This includes any worries about your well-being or safety, that of any child or adult at risk attending a TCV project, and letting us know if you are concerned or inspired by a member of TCV staff.



If you have any feedback, whether it's a concern or a compliment please:

- Talk to any member of TCV staff
- Ask for our safeguarding officer's details
- Contact TCV by phone on 01302 388 883
- Complete our feedback form at [tcv.org.uk](https://www.tcv.org.uk)
- Email feedback@tcv.org.uk

Contact us

TCV offices in Yorkshire

www.tcv.org.uk/yorkshire

York & North Yorkshire
Tang Hall Community Centre
Fifth Avenue,
York YO31 OUG
T: 01904 414927
E: york@tcv.org.uk
Web: www.tcv.org.uk/york

Humber & East Yorkshire
Conservation Centre
4 Goodwin Parade, Adelaide Street
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T: 01482 620 309
E: humber@tcv.org.uk
Web: www.tcv.org.uk/humber

Leeds Hollybush
Hollybush Conservation Centre
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Web: www.tcv.org.uk/hollybush

Leeds Skelton Grange
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