**Volunteer role description**

**CATCHMENT VOLUNTEERING**

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| Purpose of the Don Catchment Rivers Trust: | Don Catchment Rivers Trust was established to help protect and restore the rivers in the Don & Rother catchment area. Our rivers are a valuable asset which tell the story of our culture and heritage. They are important for people, wildlife and the local economy, and form an integral part of our landscape.  The Don Catchment Rivers Trust has been awarded funding for the ‘Hidden Heritage Secret Streams’ project. Our ambition is to reconnect people, communities and decision makers back to the River Rother and its rich natural, cultural, built and industrial heritage. We want to change their beliefs and attitudes so that the River Rother and its heritage will be better valued as a major asset and better protected in the future. |
| Purpose of the Role: | Working alongside DCRT staff you will help to make physical improvements to the rivers in the catchment. This will include improving access, litter picking, removing invasive non-native species (INNS) and small scale works in rivers. |
| Outline of tasks and activities: | Depending on experience and particular area of interest:   * Help local community groups to remove INNS from rivers * Physical works to rivers and their environs: thinning trees, removing debris etc * Improving access to rivers: litter picking, vegetation removal, creating paths, fixing fences and stiles * Maintaining equipment * Contribute to gathering evidence for project evaluation |
| Location & work hours: | Various locations and dates in accordance with the Trust’s programme of events. The majority of our project will take place along the Rother valley corridor in the wider Chesterfield area. |
| This role will suit people who: | * Want to get outdoors and improve their local natural heritage * Are willing to work as part of a team, and share experience and knowledge with other volunteers   Knowledge of the environmental and built heritage of the River Rother is not essential, but a willingness to learn would be desirable, and training will be available. |
| Training & support: | * Catchment volunteers will be overseen by DCRTs catchment officer * An induction and training will be available. For example there will be the opportunity to learn first aid, how to identify different species, how to work safely in water etc. * A DBS check may be required |
| Reimbursement of expenses: | Volunteers will be able to claim public transport or vehicle mileage (payable upon monthly expense claim) as per the volunteering policy |
| Application procedure: | Expression of interest form (below)  Informal interview  References and DBS check sought (if applicable)  Induction and settling in period (to be mutually agreed) |
| Contact information: | Sally Hyslop - Community Engagement Officer  Don Catchment Rivers Trust  volunteer@dcrt.org.uk |

**Volunteer Expression of Interest Form**

Which volunteer role are you interested in? ……………………………………….

**Any information given on this form is confidential and covered by the Data Protection Act 1998.**

|  |  |
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| Name | Preferred Title Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms |
| Tel. No. | Tel. No. |
| Address:  E-Mail: | |
| Where did you hear about volunteering for Don Catchment Rivers Trust? | |

Please tell us about yourself and your interest in volunteering for Don Catchment Rivers Trust in the boxes below:

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| Experience as a Volunteer |
| Work Experience |
| Courses or Training (if relevant) |
| Hobbies and Interests |
| Why would you like to be a volunteer with DCRT? |
| Do you have any unspent criminal convictions? Yes / No  If yes, please state date and nature of conviction |
| Please indicate your availability to volunteer:  **Weekdays | weekends | evenings** (please delete as appropriate and include any exceptions):  An approximate **number of hours** per week you would be available:  **Preferred locality** (or willingness to travel) : |

Please give two **independent** referees who would be willing to supply a character reference (these must not be family members)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Name |
| Address | Address |
| Tel. no. | Tel. no. |

Thank you for your interest. Once we have processed your expression of interest, we will notify you of any suitable opportunities. Please note that we do normally need two satisfactory references before you can start as a volunteer and we cannot always guarantee a suitable role. Some volunteering roles will be subject to a satisfactory DBS check.

Signed:

Date:

Please email this form to volunteer@dcrt.org.uk

Or post to:

Don Catchment Rivers Trust  
Dunston House  
Dunston Road  
Chesterfield  
Derbyshire  
S41 9QD