

# Volunteer role description

## CITIZEN SCIENTIST

<p>Purpose of the Don Catchment Rivers Trust:</p>	<p>Don Catchment Rivers Trust was established to help protect and restore the rivers in the Don &amp; 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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Purpose of the Role:</p>	<p>Working alongside DCRT staff you will help to monitor the improvements made to the Rother before and after a re-meandering project. You'll be trained to survey and identify wildlife, with focus on freshwater invertebrates found in the river and contribute to monitoring.</p> <p>You will help to run community 'bioblitz' events and have the opportunity to monitor DCRTs wildlife camera footage and social media campaigns, where images of wildlife will be identified and recorded.</p>
<p>Outline of tasks and activities:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Train in species identification</li><li>• Actively monitor sites in the catchment for wildlife</li><li>• Help to run community days</li><li>• Maintaining education equipment</li><li>• Contribute to gathering evidence for project evaluation</li></ul>
<p>Location &amp; work hours:</p>	<p>Various locations and dates in accordance with the Trust's programme, a minimum of 6 days of your time will be needed, in addition to helping with the trusts programme of community events. The majority of our project will take place along the Rother valley corridor in the wider Chesterfield area. This will include working at outdoor locations .</p>
<p>This role will suit people who:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Who want to learn about their natural heritage</li><li>• Are able to communicate with a wide range of people</li><li>• Are willing to work as part of a team, and share experience and knowledge with other volunteers</li><li>• Have an eye for detail</li><li>• Happy to work outdoors and walk distances</li><li>• Willing to travel</li></ul>

	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:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizen Science volunteers will be overseen by the Community Engagement Officer.</li> <li>• An induction and training on how to survey and identify species will be delivered</li> <li>• A DBS check may be required</li> </ul>
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:	<p>Expression of interest form (below)</p> <p>Informal interview</p> <p>References and DBS check sought (if applicable)</p> <p>Induction and settling in period (to be mutually agreed)</p>
Contact information:	<p>Community Engagement Officer – Sally Hyslop</p> <p>Don Catchment Rivers Trust</p> <p>volunteer@dcrtr.org.uk</p>