



Conservation Team Leader

Venture Scotland is a charity that runs residential programmes for disadvantaged young people in the outdoors. Led by volunteers, we do this through adventurous activities and conservation work. We aim to improve the confidence and life skills of the young people that take part.

Residential weekends are based at our isolated mountain huts (bothies) in Glen Etive and the Borders. The surrounding landscape in Glen Etive needs work undertaken to improve learning opportunities for our young people and increase biodiversity. All the bothies we use also need general maintenance and repair.

We are looking to recruit volunteer leaders to coordinate the maintenance and conservation work that takes place at the different bothies that we use.

Why we need you:

To coordinate and lead a group of motivated volunteers in regeneration, conservation and maintenance work to make the bothies we use the best resource possible!

What will I be doing?

- Working with a designated member of staff to plan a programme of maintenance and conservation work to be carried out at the bothies.
- Sending out trip information to your volunteer team and arranging logistics.
- Sourcing food, equipment and resources for trips.
- Leading trips and overseeing the work of fellow volunteers.
- Ensuring trips are run to Venture Scotland's health and safety guidelines.

What skills and attributes do I need?

- Enthusiasm and commitment to work with your team to complete the agreed programme of tasks.
- Experience of practical conservation work such as drystone walling, ditching, tree planting, fencing, gardening and/or general D.I.Y. skills would be useful.
- To be able to respond and be adaptive to the needs of different volunteers and delegate appropriate tasks.
- The ability to drive a car and/or minibus would be useful but is not essential.

How much time do I need to commit?

- To lead four weekends per year or more depending on your availability.
- Approximately 5 hours planning time needed per working trip.

What support will I be given?

- Support in planning activities from a dedicated staff member responsible for the conservation programme.
- Support, advice and encouragement from the other Conservation Team Leaders.
- Induction training at bothies.
- Travel expenses.
- Food costs for working trips and a budget for buying necessary equipment and other resources.
- Use of office facilities when required.

What benefits can I expect?

- To be part of a dynamic, motivated and outdoor-loving team.
- The chance to visit the beautiful sites at which Venture Scotland operates.
- Satisfaction of completing a programme of work.
- The opportunity to develop leadership and group management skills.
- Access to external training as required.
- Opportunity to complete the John Muir Awards in conservation.
- A whole lot of fun!

Where will I be based?

- You will carry out planning work with our staff in Edinburgh or Glasgow.
- You will have the choice of focusing your volunteering on leading trips to bothies in the Borders or in Glen Etive or to both locations!

What's the application process?

- Firstly, register your interest in this role by calling our office on 0131 475 2395 or by emailing admin@venturescotland.org.uk
- We will then send you a Volunteer Application Form.
- After you have completed this, we will arrange for you to have an informal interview to discuss the role in more detail.
- If accepted and you confirm your interest, you will then have the opportunity to visit the bothy/bothies for an induction session.

Please visit www.venturescotland.org.uk for more information about our work.