



Conservation Volunteer

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 volunteers to undertake the maintenance and conservation work that takes place at the different bothies that we use.

Why we need you:

To be part of a team providing regular remedial, maintenance and conservation work at the bothies used by Venture Scotland.

What will I be doing?

- You will have the opportunity to get involved in practical conservation work such as tree planting, fencing, ditching, drystone walling, as well as carry out general D. I. Y. tasks such as painting and putting up shelves.
- You will need to be prepared to do your share of cooking, cleaning and washing up during the trips you go on.

What skills and attributes do I need?

- Enthusiasm, energy and a desire to get things done.
- An interest in practical conservation work and/or D. I. Y.
- The ability to work together successfully with other volunteers.
- An interest in the aims and objectives of Venture Scotland.
- A reasonable level of stamina and physical fitness. The journey to our bothy in Glen Etive involves a 3½ hour drive followed by a 45 minute walk through rough terrain. To reach the bothies we use in the Borders, involves a 1½ hour drive and a short walk.
- The ability to drive a car and/or minibus would be useful but is not essential.

How much time do I need to commit?

- Two working trips per year or more depending on your availability.

What support will I be given?

- You will be guided on each trip by a lead volunteer, known as a Conservation Team Leader.
- Regular bulletins and information from Venture Scotland staff.
- Opportunity to discuss issues/ideas with a dedicated staff member responsible for our conservation programme.
- Food, equipment and relevant resources will be provided by Venture Scotland for all trips.
- Reimbursement of travel and any other relevant expenses.

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 conservation/maintenance projects.
- 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 have the choice of focusing your volunteering on trips to the bothies we use in the Borders or in Glen Etive or go 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.

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