



Outcome: Learning & Skills

Group case study: Wildskills Trainees

“The WildSkills programme will massively improve my prospects. I was looking to get into the environmental sector for a while and didn’t know where to start, but now I think I’ve got enough experience and knowledge down to apply for jobs.”

**Through the work of TCV,
people improve their confidence, skills and prospects,
through learning inspired by the outdoors.**

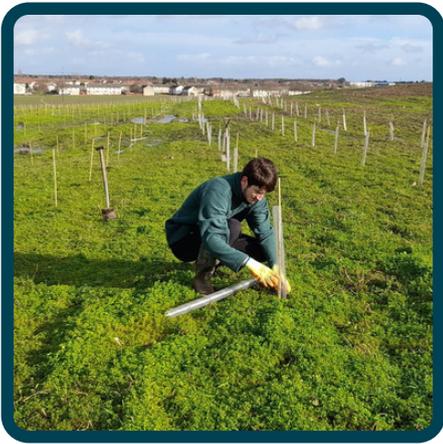
Practical and personal skills are often an outcome of volunteering with a TCV project. Sometimes volunteers find they’ve picked up a new skill without setting out to do so, but with the WildSkills traineeships, the purpose is to get them on the road to employment by providing them with the skills and experience to overcome barriers.

TCV’s 2021 WildSkills traineeship is funded by players of People’s Postcode Lottery.

91% of our volunteers say they have learnt new skills whilst volunteering with TCV.

Source: TCV impact figures 2020





The WildSkills traineeship immerses the trainees in conservation sector roles, developing skills in practical conservation, community engagement and biodiversity, all of which are the foundation to roles within the conservation sector.

Developing these skills, along with core workplace skills, gives the trainees the edge when applying for future roles in the sector.

“My time so far with TCV has been rewarding as well as great fun. I’ve thoroughly enjoyed learning a variety of new skills as well as working alongside my fellow trainees, Project Officers and team leaders. A highlight was assisting Butterfly Conservation with the removal of invasive spruce and rhododendron from the peat bogs on Islay.”

Liam - TCV WildSkills Trainee.

The 12-month programme sees trainees develop a wide range of skills and knowledge from their experiences of shadowing and supporting Senior Project Officers to work on projects, support events and work with community groups.

Being immersed in the different scenarios and day-to-day challenges of TCV projects means that the trainees develop skills that cannot be taught in an indoor classroom setting.



TCV provides other accredited and informal training opportunities across the UK for various ages, abilities and interests.

Head to our website to find out more.



WildSkills Trainees winning a TCV Hero Award

The Wildskills traineeship gives trainees the skills that are increasingly important to develop a career in the industry:

- Conservation skills - environmental/habitat management, surveying and species identification skills.
- Project management skills - financial and budget management skills, volunteer management skills.
- Essential skills - such as literacy, numeracy, basic ICT, communications, interpersonal, and community/customer relations skills.

“From the start the trainees have shown adaptability and resilience. They have turned their hand to a range of tasks, engaged with varying volunteers from different backgrounds and with difference abilities.

What the trainees excel at is bringing their individuality, their new exciting ideas, and their enthusiasm for The Conservation Volunteers and the work we do.”

Amy Styles – WildSkills Team Leader

If you would like to support volunteer training – from a funded project for young people like WildSkills to community engagement through Citizen Science projects – we’d love to talk to you.