**TORBAY COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE TRUST**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**POST TITLE:** Trainee Ranger

**RESPONSIBLE TO:** Head Ranger

WORKING HOURS: Ideally 30 hours per week

DURATION OF PLACEMENT: Ideally 9 Months

**MAIN PURPOSE OF THE JOB:** This training opportunity offers the chance to gain valuable hands on experience with Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust’s Estate Team.

To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife value and public amenity of Torbay's coast and countryside.

To improve access to Torbay's coast and countryside and provide facilities for informal outdoor recreation.

To conserve wildlife habitats, natural resources and features of archaeological and historic interest.

To increase public awareness, understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment of Torbay.

To balance the needs of farming, recreation, tourism and conservation in the countryside.

To assist in the maintenance of land managed by Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust effectively and in accordance with the overall aims of the Trust.

The above overall aims will be carried out in line with Trust policies. The general duties and responsibilities involved in this work will be as follows:

1. Observe all Health and Safety requirements as directed by the Head Ranger / Rangers
2. Performing practical landscape, access and habitat enhancement work to a high standard as directed by the Head Ranger and Countryside Rangers.
3. Assisting in the management of conservation areas and other land in the best interests of the Trust
4. Working with volunteers, both from organised groups (e.g. BTCV, Community Payback) and individuals to carry out a wide range of tasks
5. Improving footpath signing and maintaining existing signs throughout the area
6. Providing support to staff leading guided walks and events.
7. Patrolling and inspecting sites, assisting and advising the public using those sites and presenting a positive, helpful image at all times
8. Dealing with conflicts and solving typical problems encountered in urban fringe and coastal areas including fly-tipping, vandalism, off-road biking and driving and trespass
9. Undertaking any other duties as may be assigned from time to time

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**PERSON SPECIFICATION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF TRAINEE COUNTRYSIDE RANGER**

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|  | **ESSENTIAL** | **DESIRABLE** |
| **QUALIFICATIONS** | Recognised qualifications | Relevant Degree / training |
| **EXPERIENCE** | * Previous experience in practical work. * A keen interest in the countryside | Practical conservation management experience |
| **KNOWLEDGE** | Ability to demonstrate knowledge of wildlife and nature conservation | Understanding of general farm operations |
| **SKILLS** | * Decision making * Effective time management * Must be able to use initiative * Ability to work in an organised and responsible manner alone and with others * Aptitude for countryside management, especially practical tasks | Ability to demonstrate:-   * Habitat management skills * Environmental education skills * Wildlife identification skills * Ability to work with and motivate volunteers and the wider community |
| **DISPOSITION** | * Enthusiastic * Tact and diplomacy * Willing to learn * Sense of humour |  |
| **OTHER** | * Flexible approach to working hours * Willing to work in the field in all weathers |  |