

Event Volunteer



Role description

Avon Needs Trees

Avon Needs Trees (ANT) was founded in 2019 to tackle the climate and ecological emergencies by doubling woodland coverage in Bristol-Avon river catchment region. We do this by fundraising to purchase land to create new, permanent woodlands. Our first project was Hazeland, closely followed by Pudding Brook Wood, both in north Wiltshire. In 2023 we started planting our third and fourth woodlands - Great Avon Wood, the biggest woodland creation project on record in the West of England, and Ed Woods, our first land partnership. We have an ambition to continue to grow.

Role purpose

You will help ANT engage external audiences through our events programme to gain support for our mission to double woodland coverage in our region. This may be attending community or business events, or giving talks to a variety of audiences, and may take place during the day, in the evening or at the weekend. These events are irregular and ad hoc. You will be free to sign up to volunteer at events as your diary allows, there is no minimum commitment.

You'll be promoting our work, championing our brand and core messaging in face to face situations. With confidence in building quick connections you will be comfortable talking to people of all backgrounds. You'll be promoting engagement with our work, encouraging volunteering, funding and partnerships and maintaining positive relationships that already exist.

This is a great opportunity to meet a wide variety of people, support environmental action in our area, and to increase support for our mission.

Tasks and responsibilities

- Represent Avon Needs Trees at events across our area, in line with training and guidance provided, including wearing branded clothing when requested
- Encourage support for our work from a wide range of audiences, through providing accurate information in a friendly manner
- If leading on an event, liaise with event organisers to ensure all necessary paperwork, including a risk assessment, and resources are in place for the event and that we attend, set up and pack down in a timely fashion
- If supporting an event, liaise with the event lead to ensure you have all the information needed for you to play your part in the event running well

What we're looking for in you

- You will enjoy welcoming, meeting and talking to people of all ages and backgrounds, and be confident interacting with everyone from families to VIP guests
- Enthusiasm for the woodland creation in our area is more important than expertise and woodland knowledge. Training and resources will be provided to ensure you confidently know who we are and what our key messages are for the event
- You will demonstrate a sense of responsibility in representing Avon Needs Trees and appreciate the importance of an excellent engagement experience
- Most opportunities require standing for the duration of the session and/or being in a busy and hectic environment. Many of the activities also require a good level of manual dexterity as our branded kit is set up and packed away. Please advise us if you have any concerns about this, and we will do our best to support you
- You will demonstrate a sense of discretion if working with personal contact details as part of your task, or if privy to private conversations in an office environment
- A polite, confident, and personable manner is important
- Whilst some opportunities involve working independently, some opportunities do involve teamwork
- Flexibility and understanding are also key as many opportunities are by their nature last-minute and things don't always go according to plan
- You will be committed to our Volunteer Agreement
- Be willing to undergo a DBS check to volunteer in settings focussed on children and adults at risk (not usually needed, will be discussed with you if required).

Boundaries

You will not be authorised to speak on behalf of Avon Needs Trees in matters such as policy or live issues, but will defer to our approved speakers who may not be present.

Support for you

As outlined in the Volunteer Agreement, we'll provide you with a named staff supervisor, necessary training and will pay pre-agreed out of pocket expenses.

If you want to volunteer at a one-off event this may be tailored to be appropriate to your involvement, such as training being an on-the-day-briefing.

For further information about volunteering with Avon Needs Trees please contact volunteer@avonneedstrees.org.uk.