



Sessional Bushcraft Instructor

Wild in the City

Wild in the City supports wellbeing through connection to nature. We work from parks and woods in London offering bushcraft, forest school, nature awareness and ecotherapy for children, families and adults living or working in urban areas. We are a non profit Community Interest Company.

Our values

We aim to provide fun, informative and therapeutic immersion in nature; helping to reconnect people with nature in London's green and wild spaces.

We are therapeutic in our approach and aim to help facilitate the development of positive relationships in and with nature.

Many people in cities have lost contact with nature and what it can offer in terms of relaxation and recreation. Increasingly urban lifestyles are indoor orientated, isolating, lacking activity and leading to poor quality relationships. Low incomes can limit options for healthy entertainment and recreation. Wild in the City work with residents in areas of deprivation to show how nature can provide free activities which are fun and support health, raising self-esteem and giving a sense of meaning and purpose in life. Wild in the City inspire people with ideas and skills they can apply independently outside of the sessions.

Wild in the City specialises in supporting people who are unfamiliar with spending time in natural settings and those who have an insecure attachment to nature ("it's dirty/it's scary"), working with them relationally to help them feel comfortable in natural settings and encouraging them to see spending time in nature as a healthy lifestyle choice.

Aims

Wild in the City are passionate about helping people feel more connected to nature and inspiring with ideas of how they can engage with green spaces to have fun and improve their wellbeing.

We seek to promote experience and understanding of the health promoting characteristics of time in nature and their benefits to our wellbeing.

Job Summary

<i>Role:</i>	Bushcraft Instructor
<i>Working hours:</i>	Sessional
<i>Contract type:</i>	Freelance (self employed), part time
<i>Salary:</i>	£18 an hour
<i>Location:</i>	Throughout Croydon

Role Description

We are looking to recruit a Bushcraft Instructor to prepare and lead sessions teaching and demonstrating bushcraft and traditional skills to different groups including; schools, adults, families and businesses

The Bushcraft Instructor will be required to;

- Lead bushcraft sessions at sites throughout Croydon in parks and woods
- Prepare session content and materials
- Set up base camp from which sessions take place and pack up afterwards
- Be responsible for the safety of participants, staff and volunteers and the risk management of sites and activities.
- Ensure policies and procedures are adhered to during the session and implement new procedures to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers and participants
- Manage volunteers to support you in the delivery of sessions
- Create a positive environment to support learning and connection between people and nature
- Be a positive and pleasant presence, demonstrating self awareness and being a worthy role model for young people
- Model a secure attachment to nature; being comfortable and confident in natural settings
- Manage challenges that come from delivering outdoor programmes
- Monitor and maintain equipment, including sharpening tools, counting them out and in during sessions, ensuring they are safely stored during and after sessions.
- Undertake administrative tasks in relation to the sessions, including keeping records of attendance, feedback forms, log incidents, revising risk assessments as needed

Person Specification

Essential:

- Previous bushcraft instructor experience
- Experience in Risk Assessing bushcraft sessions with children, families and adults
- Understanding of the physical and emotional benefits of activity in nature
- Good communicator
- Able to work well in a team
- Diplomatic, yet assertive and decisive
- Patient, calm and friendly manner
- Able to form good relationships with a range of people from diverse backgrounds and ages
- Be a reflective practitioner, proactively engaged in personal development
- Self motivated, proactive and imaginative
- Flexible and conscientious with a positive attitude to work
- Able to recognise your own limits and work within them
- Be able to cope with the physical demands of working outdoors, hardworking and energetic
- Outdoor first Aid
- DBS check (or be willing for us to undertake one)
- Able to demonstrate skills, teach techniques and the principles of bushcraft and traditional skills (including issues of safe practice and legality); Fire lighting techniques including fire by friction, shelter building, safe tool use, carving (spoons, bowls, walking sticks), axe use, leave no trace, water purification, campfire cooking, use of natural materials to make products (baskets, string, tent pegs, tripods, hooks, fishing hooks, camp furniture), erecting tarps, knots, knowledge of edible plants, butchery (e.g. rabbit, chicken, deer), wildlife ID, animal tracking, plant uses, winter skills, clothing

systems, camp hygiene, awareness of health risks including warning signs for sun stroke, dehydration and hypothermia

Desirable:

- Experience in leading volunteers/assistants
- Food Hygiene Certificate
- Knowledge of natural navigation
- Greenwood working with pole lathe
- Conservation skills
- Woodland management
- Expedition leadership experience/qualification
- Navigation qualification
- Knowledge of Safeguarding practice for children and vulnerable adults
- Driving licence
- Experience of working with children, families, adults, corporates and community groups

The position is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Application process

To apply for this role please complete the application form, accompanied by your CV.

The closing date for applications is 3rd February 2017, we will consider applications as they arrive. If you have not heard from us two weeks after the application deadline, your application has been unsuccessful on this occasion.

Those selected will be contacted to arrange a face to face interview and assessment. During the assessment you'll be asked to deliver a bushcraft session covering core skills.