



National
Trust

Grounds Maintenance Volunteer

What is a Grounds Maintenance Volunteer?

With around 200,000 people visiting Flatford each year, various sites around our Estate get a lot of wear and tear. These sites include our buildings, the roads and footpaths leading from the car park, the area around Bridge Cottage and our Dry Dock garden. Hence, we need grounds maintenance volunteers who are willing to come in and undertake a wide range of tasks, such as litter picking, clearing fallen leaves, keeping the roads and footpaths around our buildings free of obstructions, sweeping and weeding the areas around the buildings, mowing the grass, cleaning the external paintwork and windows of our buildings and making sure that our mobility vehicle (called the 'Tramper') is clean, fully maintained (eg tyre pressures are correct, horn is working etc) and is safe and ready for use by visitors at all times.

What's in it for you?

- Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team
- Meeting people from all walks of life and making new friends
- Improving your skills
- Getting out and about in a beautiful setting
- Enjoying new experiences and learning something new every day
- Great personal satisfaction, since you have the opportunity to make a real difference to the historic site at Flatford and enhance the experience for visitors

What's involved?

- The ability to undertake manual work in all weathers
- Willingness to talk with visitors who may be interested in what you are doing
- Team working
- Safe use of garden tools and other machinery/equipment including a leaf blower, a lawn mower and the 'Tramper'.
- Lots of enthusiasm
- Reporting to the Duty Manager any identified damage to our properties and/or Estate that needs specialist attention or repair.
- Undertaking such other appropriate assistance in relation to role as may be reasonably requested by the Duty Manager.
- Working in compliance with the Trust's *Health and Safety Policy* at all times.

This role is purely voluntary and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract

This role will suit people who... enjoy variety, enjoy getting their hands dirty, like meeting people, have a friendly and helpful nature and like helping others and being part of a team.

Extra information

Your place	Flatford Bridge Cottage
Volunteers required	Three
Time commitment	One day a week for each volunteer
Line Manager	Senior Visitor Experience Officer
Volunteer contact	Volunteer Programme Manager
Training/Resources	Induction, training and development opportunities available
Expenses	Out-of-pocket travel costs between home and volunteering place can be claimed, and other reasonable expenses agreed in advance
How to apply	Please access the National Trust website, details shown below: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

On the home page, please select the link 'Join & get involved' and on the next page scroll down to 'Volunteer'. Click on 'Start volunteering' and then scroll down and click on 'Find a volunteer opportunity'. Then click on 'Search our volunteer roles' and in the box that appears type 'Flatford Bridge Cottage' and press the 'Search' button. All our volunteer vacancies will then appear. Just select 'More details' next to any role(s) you are interested in. You will then be able to read about the role. If you wish to apply, please click on the button that says 'Application Form' at the bottom of the role profile. Complete and submit the electronic application form and then just wait to hear from us ! We will be in touch with you within one week.

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About the National Trust

The National Trust is a registered charity and is completely independent of Government. We rely for income on membership fees, donations and legacies, and money raised from our commercial operations. We are supported by 3.7 million members and 55,000 volunteers without whom we simply could not manage. We protect and open to the public over 300 historic houses and gardens and 49 industrial monuments and mills. But it doesn't stop there. We also look after forests, woods, fens, beaches, farmland, downs, moorland, islands, archaeological remains, castles, nature reserves, villages – for places, for ever, for everyone.

About Flatford & the Dedham Vale

Flatford and the Dedham Vale has become internationally known through its association with the artist John Constable R.A., indeed, it is often referred to as *Constable Country*. Constable was inspired by the beauty of the area and his paintings in turn inspire many thousands of visitors, from near and far, to admire the landscape that has changed little in the 150 years since Constable painted it. Around 200,000 visitors per year enjoy this unspoilt landscape through a wide range of activities including walking, fishing, canoeing, painting, family days out and just relaxing in beautiful surroundings.

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