



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Title: Volunteer Outdoor Leader
Location: Licola, West Gippsland, Victoria
Tenure: 1 month, full time. Longer Terms negotiable
1 position available each month March – December 2014
Contact: Clare Easton or Raku Pitt – 03 5148 0492;

Role Statement

As a Volunteer Leader with the team at Wollangarra, you're an essential part of a small community based around a truly unique lifestyle. The Wollangarra philosophy is about doing rather than talking and fixing rather than complaining, your days will be filled with hard work and a strong sense of purpose.

Each week a new group of young people will come across the flying fox and get to experience a way of life that has largely been forgotten. They'll leave behind their mobile phones, watches and timetables. They'll get to bake bread, split wood, tend the veggie garden, collect the eggs and light the fire. With your guidance, they'll get the opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way and feel like a valued member of the community.

Wollangarra introduces young people to the Victorian mountains through a program of practical conservation through outdoor education, which will help them to see environmental issues as exciting and demanding challenges to the way we live, rather than endlessly depressing and negative threats to our future.

The position requires that you reside on the remote Wollangarra property, on the Macalister River. You will live and work with two directors and up to five staff. Your experience will involve lots of laughter, fun, adventure, many rewards and inevitably a challenge or two. The position is a volunteer role, but it has a great deal to offer in terms of personal and professional development.

Duties

- Lead/Assistant Lead our Stage One programs for young people aged 13-17.
- Depending on individual skills your focus will be on the property, or the three-day hikes.
- Property jobs include: catering, veggie gardening, pruning, building, plumbing, animal husbandry, chopping wood, mowing, maintaining gear, mechanics, fencing, bush crafts, cleaning and many other things involved with running an outdoor education centre and managing a property.
- Foster an awareness of self, community and the environment in participants
- Ensure high standards of safety for young people and visitors.

Mandatory Requirements

- Current Victorian Working with Children Check
- Level 2 First Aid Certificate (or ability to attain it)
- Applicants must have a legal right to volunteer in Australia.



Desirable Attributes

- **Outdoor experience and love of the outdoors**
- **Experience and interest in leading, teaching and/or working with young people** - Our main aim here is getting young people to experience the mountains. It makes your job much easier and more enjoyable if you hold a passion for spending time with teenagers.
- **Practical skills in property management**
- **Hard working** – If you love early mornings and long days of satisfying work, keep reading.
- **Strong initiative and ability to complete jobs with minimal supervision**
- **Ability to follow instructions** – Whilst we do encourage initiative, the ability to carry out instructions when requested is required
- **Commitment to living and working in a small, remote community without modern luxuries** – think no internet, no electricity no phone reception – sound good to you?
- **Willing to have a crack at anything** – At Wollangarra, you'll get the opportunity to do things you've never done before, whether it's marking lambs, learning traditional bush timber skills or demonstrating the finer points of bush toiletry to a bunch of 14 year old private school girls. We just ask that you give it a red-hot go.
- **Ability to get along with different people** – Wollangarra attracts all sorts of people for all sorts of reasons. You need to be able to engage with them, relate to them and make them feel like a valued member of the community.
- **Thick skinned** – When you live and work in a remote setting with a small team, tensions can sometimes run high and conflict is inevitable.
- **Energy and enthusiasm** – It's not hard to be upbeat when things are easy, but when you're tired, which does happen, it can be a struggle to maintain energy. If you feel you can pull through those harder times with a smile on your face then that's a bonus.
- **Philosophical alignment with Wollangarra's aims**

Other Relevant Information

The position includes accommodation, food costs (within reason), initial transport costs (within reason) from Melbourne and return, phone calls (not international) and all hike gear and bedding can be borrowed from Wollangarra for the duration.

It is recommended that prospective volunteers experience visit Wollangarra prior to applying.

If you are interested in volunteering at Wollangarra yet are unable to commit to a month, please be in touch to discuss other possibilities.

Interested?

Call Wollangarra Co-director Clare Easton on 03 5148 0492 to discuss this opportunity.

Potential volunteers will have a telephone interview and provide the contact details of two referees