



TVNP Green Guides

Become a TVNP Green Guide

Join the TVNP green guide program to help support other groups in Tees Valley by sharing knowledge and skills.

We have been working with Tees Valley Wildlife Trust to look at how to support groups as they try to get back on track from the COVID crisis. Through this, we have realised that groups could benefit from the support of other groups through a green guide programme.

Green guides will help build relationships between groups and across areas of Tees Valley. Each green guide adds their voice and experience along with the experience of their group.

Who are the green guides?

Green guides are volunteers for groups in Tees Valley who have gained skills and/or knowledge through their volunteer work. The skills and/or experience that you have could be useful in helping groups with the problems that they are having. This could be practical knowledge, assistance with fundraising and grant applications, help with organising work parties, advice on banking or insurance, advice on planting, etc.

This work builds on Tees Valley Wildlife Trust's Wilder Community Green Spaces Toolbox for groups and volunteers and will be using this as a basis for work.

Why are we asking you?

You have been asked because of your specific skill set or area of knowledge that we believe could be useful to groups. We want to reassure you that you will only be asked to assist groups in areas where your skills or knowledge are useful, and only where you agree to help the group in question.

This won't be a long-term commitment with each group, it is only to offer your thoughts, and experience and can take on the form that makes the most sense to you whether this is a phone conversation, a visit to their site or yours, a zoom call, or a meeting at a separate outdoors location.

What are we asking of you?

We understand that as you already volunteer your time and that you need to be careful about additional time commitments. We will never put a group in touch with you without confirming with you first. It's up to you how you contact them, informal chat, site visit

When a group contacts us looking for support, we will send the request to the TVNP Green guide team to see who is interested and/or available to give assistance and support.

When a green guide offers their skills and experience, we will put them in touch with the group in question and assist and support their work with the group moving forward. We will also be able to pay any expenses incurred from your work as a guide, such as travel, or materials expenses.

How could it benefit you and your group?

Through your volunteer work as a green guide, you will make connections with other groups and get an insight into how other groups work and what they are planning. Having these connections and a better understanding of other groups could be beneficial in the work with your group moving forward.

In addition, should you or your group find you need advice or assistance you will be in the perfect place to get help from your fellow guides.

Being part of the green guides will also provide you with a way to have your voice heard by the organisations that make up the Tees Valley Nature Partnership in quarterly working group and steering group meetings. You will have the opportunity to raise matters that you and/or your group think are important with the relevant TVNP group, as well as putting any news your group has in the TVNP quarterly newsletter. You can find out more about the organisations and groups that make up the Tees Valley Nature Partnership [here](#), and more about the working groups and steering group [here](#).

If you would be interested in becoming a green guide or would like more information, please contact Louise Richards on 07736895173 or by email at lrichards@teeswildlife.org.