

Weekend Centre Assistant (Fixed-Term)

Langdon Nature Discovery Centre

We are looking for a Weekend Centre Assistant to join us on a fixed term basis until 31 October 2026 at our idyllic Nature Discovery Park at Langdon, near Basildon.

About Essex Wildlife Trust

We are the County's leading nature conservation charity, committed to protecting wildlife and inspiring a lifelong love of nature and one of the largest Wildlife Trusts in the UK.

This is the most important decade in the history of nature conservation and an exciting time to be joining us. If we are to tackle the climate crisis and the ecological crisis, we need the best people to rally around environmental protection.

Our values are [Impactful](#), [Collaborative](#), [United](#) and [Proactive](#).





The Role

Langdon Nature Discovery Centre is set in a stunning nature reserve of 461 acres which comprises of woodland, meadows, lakes and former plotland gardens. Langdon nature reserve is the largest inland reserve managed by Essex Wildlife Trust. The nature reserve occupies some of the highest land in the county, has some commanding views and offers miles of excellent walks, where an abundance of wildlife can be enjoyed.

The Nature Discovery Centre offers an opportunity to discover the wildlife within the park whilst enjoying refreshments and a gift shop, run by a friendly team and wonderful volunteers who are passionate about providing fantastic customer service.





As a Weekend Centre Assistant, the role will include serving customers in both retail and food and beverage areas, operating tills, and preparing drinks using the barista machine. Responsibilities also include maintaining a clean and organised environment and restocking shelves. You will work closely with our dedicated volunteers, who are passionate about supporting the Trust's mission. All revenue generated from our visitor centres directly funds vital conservation work across our reserves in Essex.

Working as part of a visitor centre team, the post holder will need to be a team player who can engage in a welcoming and professional way with our visitors - ensuring excellent customer service is always at the forefront.

We are looking for a friendly individual with an interest in customer service to join Essex Wildlife Trust in this visitor engagement role.



Job Description

- Greet and engage visitors at all stages of their experience.
- Prepare and serve hot and cold food and beverage refreshments.
- Ensure retail stock is presented effectively.
- Operate the till, promote retail, food and membership opportunities to boost revenue and donations.
- Keep front-of-house areas clean, tidy, and inviting to enhance the visitor experience.
- Clear tables and floors, operate the barista machine and dishwasher.
- Collaborate with the team to meet centre targets and ensure smooth daily operations.
- Maintain high standards of hygiene and follow all health, safety, and security policies.
- Address visitor inquiries and feedback professionally, escalating issues when needed.
- Follow procedures for stock control, deliveries, EPOS, and food & beverage services.
- Engage visitors to promote the centre and the work of Essex Wildlife Trust.
- Communicate effectively with staff and volunteers, attending team meetings as needed.
- To undertake any other duties which are commensurate with the role.

Additional Information

- Eight hours per week over Saturdays and Sundays, with opportunities for overtime during busy periods
- Fixed term contract until 31st October 2026
- The Nature Discovery Centre is open every day of the year, with the exception for Christmas Day and Boxing Day.



Person Specification

- Excellent customer service skills.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills.
- Able to adhere to all health and safety legislation and Trust procedures.
- Able to handle cash and use an EPOS (till) systems confidently.
- Work as part of a team that includes working alongside volunteers.
- Proven ability to use own initiative.
- Knowledge of /or interest in wildlife and an interest in working for a charity which is determined to protect wildlife for the future and for the people of Essex.

For more information about our Langdon Park Nature Discovery Centre, please visit essexwt.org.uk/nature-reserves/langdon or an informal discussion about the role, please contact jobs@essexwt.org.uk.



Terms

This position is a fixed term role until 31 October 2026, working 8 hours per week across Saturday and Sunday. The hourly rate for this role is £13.08 per hour.

Annual leave entitlement starts at 26 days per annum increasing annually to 29 days plus bank holidays (pro-rata for part-time staff). We provide company sick pay increasing with length of service, an employee assistance programme, a combined 8% contribution pension scheme, staff social days, colleague nomination scheme and discounts in our Nature Discovery Centres.

How to Apply

Please complete an application form via our website by 9:00am on 14 August 2026. Interviews will be arranged for 21 August 2026.

We reserve the right to close this advert early. Please submit your application at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you for your interest in this position and I look forward to receiving your application.

Chloe Boulton
Site Manager (Langdon)

