



Volunteer Opportunity

Stewardship Location Lead

As a Stewardship Location Lead, you will work with Thames Talbot Land Trust staff and volunteers to manage and oversee the stewardship volunteer program in a particular area containing one or more TTLT nature reserves. You will be the local point person for volunteers in your area. You enjoy planning and communications, and will contribute to annual workplans, organizing and coordinating Stewardship Volunteer Events, and helping to recruit and support local volunteers in your area. Typically, there will be one or two Stewardship Location Leads for each area, so you may have the opportunity to partner with another volunteer for this role.

Areas currently in need of a Location Lead are as follows:

- Central Elgin (Hawk Cliff Woods)
- Perth County (includes McTavish Tract, Eberhardt Farm, and Black Creek Heronry)
- Five Points/Oxford (includes Five Points Forest – Driedger Tract, Five Points Forest – Ross's Woods, and Mud Lake Nature Reserve)
- West Lorne Woods and area (includes Lusty Family Woods, Tanager Tract, and MeadowWoods)
- North Middlesex (includes Joany's Woods and Teidje Woods)

Responsibilities

- Work with Thames Talbot Land Trust staff and volunteers to determine the annual workplan for your area.
- Assist with the scheduling and coordination of stewardship volunteer events including invasive species removal, seed collection, planting and seeding, trail maintenance, gardening, or habitat/species monitoring.
- Coordinate event logistics including meeting arrangements, ensuring the necessary equipment, tools, and first aid kits are available, and sign-in/liability forms are signed by volunteers.
- Assist with event communications including emailing volunteers, social media posts, event webpages etc.
- Encourage Stewardship Volunteers and Mentors to track and report their volunteer hours.
- Network in the local community to recruit new volunteers, and assist with volunteer training, tracking, communications, and rewards.
- Report progress/results to TTLT staff and/or the Property Management Committee.

Time Commitment

We ask Stewardship Location Leads to commit to at least one year in this role. Stewardship work is very seasonal and is usually focused more heavily in the spring and fall months, but on average you can expect to contribute 10-15 hours per months in this role.

Training

Attendance at a TTLT Volunteer Orientation event as well as a Stewardship Orientation event (posted at www.thamestalbotlandtrust.ca/events_calendar) is mandatory to become a Stewardship Location Lead.

Skills and Experience

- Some combination of technical skills/qualifications such as species ID, chainsaw certification, licensed exterminator, Ecological Land Classification etc. would be an asset.
- Experience with event planning would be an asset.
- Experience coordinating volunteers would be an asset.
- Excellent people skills including communication and leadership skills.
- Excellent organization and attention to detail.
- Basic knowledge of Ontario's ecology and species ID, as well as restoration/conservation principles, particularly as it relates to volunteer tasks.
- Basic knowledge of Thames Talbot Land Trust including our mission, history, and current projects.
- Comfortable with the use of pesticides for restoration purposes (note: pesticides are only applied by Licensed Exterminators in compliance with all Federal and Provincial legislation).
- First Aid certification would be a strong asset.

Other Requirements

- Stewardship Location Leads ideally live locally to the area for which they are the lead.
- You should be familiar with the nature reserves in the area before becoming a Location Lead for that area. This can be achieved by attending stewardship volunteer events or arranging tours with TTLT staff or volunteers.
- Most of our nature reserves are remote and not accessible by public transport. Access to your own transportation would be an asset. If you do not have access to transportation, please still get in touch. We may be able to facilitate carpooling or other transportation options.

To Apply

- Please fill out the volunteer application form and indicate "Stewardship volunteering" as an area of interest.