



## **ORMLT Volunteer Assignment Description**

### **Education Expert**

#### **About the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust**

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust is a charitable organization that focuses on conserving the ecological integrity of the Oak Ridges Moraine. Our mission is clear: "Create a thriving and everlasting ecosystem on and near the Oak Ridges Moraine." We recognize the critical ecological services provided by the Oak Ridges Moraine and Greenbelt, such as water filtration, climate change mitigation, habitat for rare and at-risk species and other ecological services, and actively work to preserve these services, ensuring the long-term sustainability of the region. We work with passionate and caring landowners and volunteers to protect and steward environmentally sensitive lands. Together, we nurture these lands, promoting health and sustainability for future generations.

Our three core areas of focus include:

- Protecting land forever. We protect beyond legislation.
- Stewardship and monitoring the properties we protect.
- Educating the public about the importance of conservation.

#### **Position Summary and Objectives**

As an education expert, your role will involve teaching people about anything and everything from native and invasive species to climate change issues, and anything in between. While this role may be infrequent, you will play an invaluable part in supporting the growth of the volunteer program and spreading knowledge on conservation, wildlife, and environmentalism to people who are interested in learning more and making a difference. Having new people lead webinars, hikes, or other educational workshops helps us to achieve our goals in raising awareness and teaching people more about the planet they live on.

Your unique views and experience will allow you to offer new insights and perspective on topics such as ecosystem health, local species, indigenous practices, or anything else you feel you have significant understanding and knowledge of that you'd like to share with others.

#### **Supervisor/Contact, Accountability**

ORMLT volunteers receive support from program staff who possess expertise in conservation and eco-management, along with guidance from the Coordinator of Volunteers and Community Partnerships. Continuous communication and consultation ensure that volunteers feel comfortable in their roles and receive the necessary assistance when required.

#### **Time Commitment**



# OAK RIDGES MORaine LAND TRUST

A commitment of 1-2 events per year, although volunteers are welcome to host/lead events more frequently if they wish. We usually do more in-person events in the warmer months and more virtual webinars throughout the winter.

## Location

Our events take place at various Nature Reserves across the Moraine as well as virtually through zoom. Together, we can determine which nature reserve makes the most sense for the event you'd like to host. You can attend our webinars from anywhere, as long as you have a secure internet connection.

## Responsibilities & Duties

Education Expert Volunteers key responsibilities include:

- Leading educational events
- Answering questions from the public and other volunteers
- Informing people about your areas of knowledge and about relevant issues such as climate change
- Getting people excited about nature, conservation, and making an impact

## Qualifications & Requirements

- Comfortable working outside under various conditions and terrain and/or comfortable using virtual platforms such as Zoom.
- An interest in, and knowledge on land protection, local ecology, conservation etc.
- Volunteers can decide when and where works best for them to lead an educational event, but once scheduled, we ask that you follow through, since people will be signing up to attend these sessions.

## Training/Safety/Risk Management Requirements

- Complete a general orientation to the organization.
- Participate in role-specific training as required (on-site and virtual).
- Review volunteer handbook and role specific safety and risk management guidelines and resources.
- Complete a risk management and confidentiality waiver.
- Wear a high visibility vest while on an ORMLT property.

## Benefits

- Work as part of a dedicated team supporting the ORMLT mission and our commitment to conservation, stewardship and education.
- Gain skills and experience relating to conservation and land management.
- Meet and learn from staff and consultants with expertise in eco management and conservation.
- Expand your network – meet other volunteers interested in protecting land and conservation across the Moraine.