**The Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania**



December 2021
 **Volunteer Expressions of Interest are currently being called for the
Campground Host Program at Chain of Lagoons, Conservation Area, Tasmania**

The Department Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas) is calling for Expressions of Interest for Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) Volunteer Campground Hosts to be stationed at the Chain of Lagoons Conservation Area for 4-week placements, between January and April 2022
(1, 2-week or 3-week deployments will be considered where 4-week placements are not filled).

This popular volunteer activity provides an opportunity for volunteers to

* get in touch with your circadian rhythms! Rise with the sun and sleep with the stars, camp in a remote location with limited access to modern technology.
* meet with visitors from far and wide and, if required, provide them with the information that will assist them to enjoy an enriching experience within the conservation area in a sustainable way.
* experience an environment that has a rich cultural history, intriguing geology, fascinating flora and fauna, crystal blue waters where nautilus sail in the roaring forties.
* give something back to this unique environment.

**Volunteer activities**

* Welcoming visitors.
* Minor site maintenance and ensuring facilities are clean and in good working order
* Reporting any issues to PWS Staff at the St Helen’s Field Centre.
* Supporting PWS staff with first response provision for minor first aid or in the event of an emergency if required.
* Encouraging campground Safety and Protection (Ross River Fever Barmah Forest Virus and Flinders Island Spotted Fever)
* Providing information to visitors regarding flora and fauna restrictions regarding collection.
* Volunteers may be asked to help facilitate other tasks with PWS staff from time to time in accordance with relevant skills and training.

**Volunteering with NRE Tas**

We recognise the value of volunteerism in not only supporting community health and wellbeing, but also in delivering significant contributions to support, protect and promote Tasmania’s unique landscapes, flora, and fauna.

We seek to develop and manage volunteer programs that deliver unique opportunities for individuals to get involved, care for the environment, learn new skills, connect with nature, and meet like-minded people for a shared experience.

NRE Tas volunteers are a valued part of our organisation, working alongside our staff to care for Tasmania’s natural and cultural values. Volunteers in NRE Tas programs, provide their time, skills, and knowledge freely and willingly, complementing our existing staff resources, but do not replace paid positions.

**About the Program**

The Chain of Lagoons Campground Host Program is seen as beneficial to the management of the area. Greeting visitors and monitoring the campground during peak periods enables PWS to provide adequate resources to the campground where resourcing during these peak periods is stretched to the limits. The St Helens Field Centre covers approx. 57,000 hectares of reserved land and Future Potential Production Land (FPPL), throughout the Northeast of Tasmania. There are 600-800 campsites, 46 reserves and associated infrastructure, 140 km of coastline with the capacity of holding 2500-3000 people at any-one time.

The Lagoons Beach Conservation Area campground is situated on the East Coast of Tasmania. South of the town ship of St Marys and North on the Tasman Hwy. The Chain of Lagoons provides a range of activities including bushwalking, swimming, fishing, boating, snorkelling, and diving.

Please be advised there is limited mobile coverage at Lagoons Beach campground.

**General information**

Volunteers, working in pairs, are offered placements of blocks of 2-weeks’ duration between January and April 2022.

Preference is given to 4-week placements; however, applicants may apply for a shorter placement which will be considered if placements are not all filled.

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| PLACEMENT SCHEDULE These are weekly blocks, please select 2 or more consecutive blocks up to a maximum of 4. Mark your preference with a number 1 being your most preferred dates, number 2 being second choice and so forth.  |
|  | Tue 11 Jan – Wed 19 Jan 2022 |  | Tue 8 March – Wed 16 Mar 2022 |
|  | Tue 18 Jan – Wed 26 Jan 2022 |  | Tue 15 Mar – Wed 23 Mar 2022 |
|  | Tue 25 Jan – Wed 2 Feb 2022 |  | Tue 22 Mar – Wed 30 Mar 2022 |
|  | Tue 1 Feb – Wed 9 Feb 2022 |  | Tue 29 Mar – Wed 6 Apr 2022 |
|  | Tue 22 Feb – Wed 2 Mar 2022 |  | Tue 5 Apr – Wed 13 Apr 2022 |
|  | Tue 1 Mar – Wed 9 Mar 2022 |  | Tue 12 Apr – Wed 20 Apr 2022 |
| Standby Campground Hosts - Some Volunteer Campground Hosts may need to cancel their placement at short notice. If you are interested in filling in at short notice, please cross this box. ☐ |

NRE Tas will provide:

* Safety briefing, induction, and information to support activities prior to commencing campground host activities at Lagoons Beach.
* Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) relevant for the volunteer activities
* Use of first aid kits and COVID-19 cleaning materials
* Tools and equipment for minor maintenance work
* Site information and relevant visitor resources
* Notebook and pen

Volunteers are asked to provide:

* Be fully vaccinated as required by the NRE Tas COVID – 19 Vaccination Policy.
* All activity leaders must hold a current workplace level II first aid certificate or equivalent.
* National Police Check.
* Volunteers operating chainsaws or brush cutters will be required to hold (and produce) a current certificate of competency.
* Volunteers mixing chemicals will be required to hold (and produce) a current Chem Cert certificate of proficiency.
* Chain of Lagoons Campground Host program must record all attendance of participants and provide to contact ranger when required.
* Personal medication and toiletries.
* Personal mobile phone.

**Training**

Information to support all volunteer activities, including training, induction and safety briefings will be provided by NRE Tas employees prior to participation in the program.

To support your understanding of becoming a NRE Tas volunteer, all applicants are encouraged to read and become familiar with the *DPIPWE Volunteer Induction and Participation Manual*, available on the [NRE Tas website.](https://nre.tas.gov.au/about-the-department/volunteering)

**Advice for applicants regarding COVID-19**

NRE Tas volunteer programs are conducted in accordance with the Tasmanian Government’s COVID-19 Safe Workplaces Framework. This includes the Department’s COVID-19 Safe Plan, Volunteer Activity Risk Assessments, and any relevant site plans.

In accordance with current COVID-19 Public Health Advice, individuals most at-risk are *encouraged* to consider their personal circumstances and complete a COVID-19 Action Plan in consultation with their medical practitioner.

Changes to COVID-19 Public Health Advice may result in suspension of the volunteer program at short notice.

Volunteers should also ensure they are familiar with the current quarantine and border control restrictions, prior to submitting an expression of interest.

Volunteers are also encouraged to review the COVID-19 volunteer information, available on the [NRE Tas website](https://nre.tas.gov.au/about-the-department/volunteering) prior to submitting an EOI.

Following successful appointment to the program, volunteers will be required to complete a NRE Tas volunteer registration process, mandatory COVID-19 training and information.

**Medical disclosures**

The majority of NRE Tas volunteer roles, require a reasonable level of physical fitness. Volunteers are encouraged to consider the location of activities, noting in some locations immediate access to health services may not be readily available.

Volunteers should ensure all personal medications are available wherever needed, with relevant health information disclosed to the Department to ensure we can support your safe participation.

Information will only be requested from successful applicants and handled in accordance with relevant privacy legislation.

**How to get involved**

We appoint new and existing volunteers based on merit, interest and availability.

NRE Tas volunteer roles are not paid positions, and therefore an EOI submission should not be written in the same way as a job application.

The department is interested in finding out more about you, what motivates you to volunteer, why you are interested in participating in the program and any skills or experience you might have that you think would add value to the volunteering role on offer.

Please get together with your placement partner and provide a short form submission, being an email or letter addressing the volunteer criteria below (1-2 paragraphs for each of the criteria below) One submission per pair of volunteers is adequate:

**V1** Your interest in the volunteering opportunity – why you would like to participate?

**V2** Your ability to be part of the team, working alongside and supporting other volunteers and staff.

**V3** Your experience in working and/or living in a remote and climatically variable location with limited supervision and / or undertaking campground host roles in other locations.

Ability to follow Work Health and Safety practises to ensure a safe working environment.

An interest in or knowledge of the flora, fauna, geology and heritage of Chain of Lagoons Conservation area or a similar area

**V4** Do you or your placement partner hold a current Workplace Level 2 First Aid Certificate or equivalent or have the ability to attain one prior to your preferred placement date?

**V5** Confirmation of your availability to attend the placement.

**Please submit your application to:**  volunteering@nre.tas.gov.au

**Closing date: Tuesday 18 January 2022**