

Position:	Bushcare Volunteer
Reports to:	Site Supervisor
Hours:	2 to 3 hours a month dependant on group meeting times
Location:	Various bush sites across the Northern Beaches

Role Purpose:

Bushcare is all about community volunteers working with Council to conserve and rehabilitate publicly owned natural bushland. Bushcare groups aim to rehabilitate the bush from a weed infested or otherwise degraded plant community to a healthy community, composed of locally occurring native plants, encouraging the bush to 'bounce back' through natural processes.

Requirements:

- No previous experience is required
- Bush regeneration work is manual in nature and as such, volunteers should be physically fit.
- Applicants should recognise that environmental restoration work requires a flexible, biodiversity-based approach requiring patience and a long-term commitment
- Commitment to Council's workplace values of Trust, Teamwork, Respect, Integrity, Service and Leadership

Bushcare is a child friendly program:

Children and young people have the right to be safe from all forms of abuse and not be placed at risk of harm. Matters of reportable conduct are required to be reported to the NSW ombudsman regardless of whether the Department of Community Services, the Police, or any other body, is already involved with investigating the matter.

Examples of reportable allegations or convictions

- Any sexual offence or sexual misconduct committed against, with or in the presence of a child – including child pornography offence
- Any assault, ill-treatment or neglect of a child
- Any behaviour that causes psychological harm to a child – even if the child consented to the behaviour

Key Tasks and Responsibilities:

Bush regeneration usually occurs in three main phases:

A: Primary clearance – a relatively short phase of (sometimes) heavy manual labouring work where the bulk of undisturbed weeds are removed. Cutting, stacking, lifting, digging and pulling are the main tasks. Much of this work is done standing and walking around.

B: Secondary or 'follow up' – a longer phase where regrowing weeds must be more carefully removed by digging or hand pulling. Most of this work is done close to the ground, crouching or sitting.

C: Maintenance – the longest phase where the site is progressively improved and protected. Nearly all this work is done at ground level.



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Volunteer Role Description Bushcare

What to Wear: Participants will need to wear long sleeved shirt, long pants, enclosed shoes and a hat.

Contact: bushcare@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au

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