

Volunteering description

Purpose of the program

To create opportunities for members of the community to help enhance and nurture our reservoir reserves, working alongside SA Water in a rewarding, safe and supportive environment that enables connection to nature.

What to expect

As a volunteer at our reservoir reserves, you'll be part of small groups volunteering under the supervision of SA Water Reservoir Rangers. You will help with a range of activities supporting conservation and recreation within South Australia's reservoir reserves that are open to the public for recreational access.

Your support as part of our volunteering community will help protect and preserve these special places, ensuring a thriving natural environment for South Australians and the continued supply of safe, clean drinking water. Through the diversity of volunteering activities, you will gain valuable knowledge and skills in land and recreation management.

You are free to change your level of contribution to the program at any time by notifying us.

Key activities and opportunities

You'll have opportunities to be involved in a range of activities which support ongoing preservation of South Australia's reservoir reserves including:

- Habitat improvement and restoration
 - seed collection and propagation
 - amenity planting and revegetation.
- Pest plant control programs
 - monitoring the extent of declared plant species
 - controlling declared plant species.
- Citizen science and monitoring programs
 - biodiversity identification and surveying (e.g. birds, mammals, plants).
- Assisting with community events and activities
 - helping host ad hoc events, providing a great visitor experience and being a point of information and knowledge to members of the public
 - fish stocking activities.

About our volunteers

Our volunteers:

1. Demonstrate passion for conservation and the sustained preservation of our natural environment.
2. Champion recreational access at reservoir reserves, focused on visitor experience and promoting these special places.
3. Recognise and support SA Water's responsibility to provide safe, clean drinking water while enabling recreational access that balances environmental protection and visitor experience.
4. Are required to collaborate safely with SA Water and other volunteers when performing volunteer activities.
5. Are required to follow the instruction, direction and advice of SA Water team members as they relate to health, safety, environment and water quality directions.
6. Possess a level of health and physical fitness that enables you to safely undertake volunteering activities, and which does not adversely affect the safety of others.
7. Must declare any issue or concern that may impact the ability to perform a specific task.
8. Must talk with SA Water when unsure of a task, and never place themselves or others at risk.
9. Must demonstrate professional behaviour towards SA Water team members, other volunteers and members of the public at all times.
10. Provide constructive feedback about the program, including ideas that may help improve the program.
11. Possess good communication and interpersonal skills.

Activity demands

It's important you understand the range of activities will:

- be outdoors, and subject to weather conditions
- vary in levels of physical activity, ranging from walking and observing to manual handling such as bending, lifting, digging and pulling
- be on natural terrain, often with uneven ground and rocky or steep slopes
- be in the presence of local wildlife, which could include snakes, bees, and wasps.

If you have any questions or concerns about any activity, you must discuss them with the SA Water Recreation Liaison Adviser or an SA Water team member before participating.

Special conditions

SA Water must comply with laws and ensure your safety as far as reasonably practicable, meaning that you must:

- hold a valid Working with Children Check and National Police Certificate
- if we require it, obtain a medical clearance certificate or advice about reasonable assistance to support you to volunteer from your Treating Medical Practitioner
- be able to make your own way to and from a reservoir reserve
- have a working mobile phone to enable contact with you, including in emergencies
- complete relevant orientation and site-specific inductions before starting volunteer activities
- work according to the guidelines set out in the Volunteer Handbook and this document while volunteering
- follow all safety instructions, including the use of personal protective equipment, as directed by an SA Water Reservoir Ranger or team member
- retain and reuse personal protective equipment supplied to you by SA Water, for example gloves or a broad-brimmed hat.