



ESTONIAN FUND FOR NATURE

PROFILE

ELF is a non-governmental organization dedicated to nature conservation. Our mission is to preserve endangered species and their habitats, natural landscapes and natural associations typical of Estonia. For more than 23 years, ELF has organized yearly nature conservation holidays where volunteers, participants and group managers work together in order to improve the living conditions of a certain species (i.e. natterjack toad, black stork) or maintain semi-natural communities.

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NATURE VOLUNTEERING IN ESTONIA

26th June - 28th August 2023
(2 months)

It is possible to extend Your stay by starting earlier and/or finishing later

➤ WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

2 MALE VOLUNTEERS

- Age 20-30
- Physically fit and strong
- Punctual! (respecting the timetables)
- Cautious and fastidious

➤ WHAT ARE THE TASKS?

- Helping out with **packing equipment** for the nature camps (**lifting heavy items**).
- **Participating in nature camps**, where volunteers restore the habitats of endangered species.
- Taking pictures and **writing a blog** about their experiences.

➤ WHAT WILL YOU GAIN?

- A hands-on practical experience in nature conservation.
- An opportunity to visit picturesque locations.
- An opportunity to obtain knowledge about (Estonian) nature.
- An opportunity to improve one's organizing, planning, writing, and communication skills.



THE ORGANIZERS OF ELF'S NATURE CAMPS

Kadri Aller became a volunteer group leader in 2013 and a paid employee in 2018.

Katrin Loss became a volunteer group leader in 2014 and a paid employee in 2020.

It is our task to write funding projects for the camps, tutor the volunteers, take care of the tools, book the accommodations and make arrangements with landowners and species experts.

One of our tasks is to assemble equipment for each camp. This involves a lot of lifting and carrying of heavy items. As this is not very compatible with female anatomy, we would be happy to have some men helping us out.

PACKING EQUIPMENT FOR THE NATURE CAMPS

➤ WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

ELF has about 40 volunteering camps per year and each of these camps need tools (chainsaws, rakes, etc) and other equipment (pots, pans, fuel) that need to be taken from the cellar and loaded onto a minivan.

➤ HOW OFTEN?

1-4 times per week, 1-2 hours at a time.



PACKING EQUIPMENT FOR THE NATURE CAMPS





ELF'S NATURE CAMPS

Conservation holidays are becoming more and more popular throughout the world. It's a way of holidaying that combines recreational activities with much needed conservation work. ELF Conservation Holidays or *talgud* consist of voluntary conservation work, getting to know the area, a hike and meeting the local ranger or guide. Holidays normally lasts 3-5, but sometimes up to 10 days. Evening activities include camp-fires and saunas.

A typical workday lasts for 6 hours. The work equipment and gloves will be provided by ELF. The group will be cooking their own food throughout the camp. The Estonian group leader will compile the menu and buy the groceries.

PARTICIPATING IN NATURE CAMPS

➤ WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

In the majority of our nature camps a sawyer cuts brushwood with a chainsaw or brush-cutter and the other volunteers will carry the branches into piles and burn them. This kind of work restores open landscapes which provide habitats for many bird, plant, and amphibian species.

See pictures of the camps: www.talgud.ee/talgud/galerii/2022

➤ HOW OFTEN?

As much, as You like. We have many camps to choose from. Locations are all over Estonia, including small unhabited islands.



PARTICIPATING IN NATURE CAMPS

