#### **Volunteer role description**

Canalside Greenspace Group

**What is it**

The Canalside Greenspace Group will explore the local greenspaces and together identify improvement opportunities at several small greenspace's areas at Fountainbridge Green and Harrison Park.

As a group we will together consider what kind of improvements could be made (e.g. planting, decorating, adding a feature) at those small greenspaces and together make possible improvements.

The aim is to together improve different small greenspaces at Fountainbridge Green and Harrison Park for the benefit of the people and nature.

It will be a fun, there will be cake, chat and lots to explore and learn together about our greenspaces. Everyone is welcome who has an interest in improving our local greenspaces for people and nature.

**Volunteer role**

Canalside Greenspace Group member

**Why do we need you?**

Fountainbridge Canalside Community Trust has been told by the community through consultation that you would like to see improved green spaces. The Canalside Greenspace Group is an opportunity to be part of making this happen together with others.

The group will be about improving small greenspaces at Fountainbridge Green and Harrison Park together for people and the planet.

**What will you be doing?**

As a group together we will be improving small greenspaces at Fountainbridge Green and Harrison Park**.** We will spend our time together considering how we can improve these urban greenspaces for people and the planet

1. Look at what is now in our greenspaces: taking stock together. Explore our greenspaces and uncover what is already there.
2. Gather ideas around what could be improved (this includes visits to other inspiring urban greenspaces, the Edinburgh Seed Library and more).
3. Consider together what changes we would like to see in the small greenspaces and noting down any other opportunities and ideas emerging.
4. Make some changes together. This could include
   1. Clearing vegetation
   2. Cutting back shrubs
   3. Sowing seeds, planting plants
   4. Litter picking
   5. Weeding
5. Drinking tea, eating cake

Activities could also include other things such as coming up with ideas for sharing what we do as a group (poster making etc.) and organising wee community gatherings in the greenspaces.

##### **What we’re looking for – skills, qualities, experience**

**Who is it for**

Anyone who has an interest in the local greenspaces at the canal side (Fountainbridge Green and Harrison Park).

Anyone who wants to come together with others in the community in the local greenspaces and work together for people and the planet.

You might live nearby in the community and want to be part of making your local greenspaces even better. Maybe you travel through or visit the Fountainbridge or Harrison Park regularly and therefore have an interest in helping make improvements happen.

The different activities we will do are for different abilities and no previous experience is needed. No previous knowledge about greenspace improvements needed.

* Bring curiosity and imagination for what is possible.

Joining the Canalside Greenspace Group will give you the opportunity to use your existing skills and knowledge, learn more skills by learning from each other, increase confidence and socialise in the outdoors.   
All equipment provided.

You would need a basic level of physical fitness as we will move through greenspaces and do some mild physical exercise at times.

**Why join in**

You will meet other people who are also interested in making our local greenspaces even better for people (e.g. of different ages) and nature (e.g. bees).  
Connect with your local community and local nature places and spaces.

Together explore our local greenspaces and really get to know them (e.g. from different people's perspectives)

Visit other inspiring greenspace projects together as a group and learn what improvements were made there.

Visit the Edinburgh Seed Library. You will learn more about plants and seed saving.

Imagine what the small greenspaces could be like.

As a group you will shape amazing small greenspace improvement ideas and help make it happen.

Being together in greenspaces in our community is good for physical and mental wellbeing.

You can become a volunteer with Fountainbridge Canalside Community Trust and participate in other activities.

**Where will the volunteering take place?**

The Canalside Greenspace Group will meet in the in the local greenspaces areas (Fountainbridge Green or Harrison Park) and there will be an indoor location for bad weather days.

**Is there any training or support?**

You will be supported by your group facilitator who will hold space for the group to come together.   
You will also be supported by a gardener who will share knowledge and skills around planting, seed saving and sowing. There is also an opportunity to learn about urban placemaking for wellbeing and biodiversity in general terms.   
As a group together we can consider relevant memberships for the group as we grow together and progress ideas (e.g. becoming part of the [Edinburgh Nature Network](https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/9e57bb4b3d4c443889392b725ad2ae46)). We can invite people to give talks to the group about topics we want to learn more about and explore e.g. planting for biodiversity and wellbeing of people.

**Contact**. [Fiona@fcct.scot](mailto:Fiona@fcct.scot) or 07706580147 if interested or for further information.