

## Pollinator Field Assistant – Bumblebee Surveys and Pollination Biology Studies of At-Risk Plants



Wildlife Preservation Canada (WPC) is a charitable organization whose mission is to save animal species at risk from extinction in Canada. We are currently hiring for the position of Pollinator Field Assistant. This person will be responsible for field work and data collection as part of WPC's Pollinators At Risk Initiative, under the direction of the Project Biologist. This position offers a unique opportunity to work with at-risk and declining plant and pollinator species and directly contribute to recovery efforts.

### Major Tasks:

- Road-side and on-site bumblebee surveys across southern Ontario and extreme southwestern Quebec to locate populations of the Endangered (provincially and federally-listed) Rusty-patched Bumblebee and the declining Yellow-banded Bumblebee
- Wild bumblebee population surveys and collections (nest searching, behavioural monitoring, collection of workers for pathogen studies, recording of ecological requirement data)
- Pollination biology studies of at-risk plant species across southern Ontario, including observations of flower visitors and breeding system trials
- Accurate record-keeping of field data and entry of field data into Excel spreadsheet
- Landowner communication and outreach
- Additional tasks as required

### Qualifications:

- Enrollment in or completion of an undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline, or equivalent knowledge/experience
- Prior experience with field monitoring/surveying
- Valid Class "G" Ontario driver's license
- Ability to navigate in the field using a map and GPS
- Must be able to work independently and as part of a small team
- Physically fit and able to endure working in rough terrains, variable weather conditions, and with exposure to biting and stinging insects
- Able to work in aquatic systems, including work from a canoe (canoe experience is an asset)
- Willing to work long hours and be away for multiple days at a time
- Good interpersonal skills and the ability to maintain positive relationships with private landowners and park officials
- Valid first aid certification is an asset
- Ability to identify common flora in the field is an asset
- Experience with insect identification is an asset
- Camping experience is an asset

The position runs from mid-April through late September 2014. This is a full-time-equivalent\* contract requiring long hours, travel, and over-night stays (campsites and other accommodations), and is based in Guelph, Ontario. The salary rate for this position is \$14/hr\*. Some opportunities for contract extension and/or positions the following field season may be available.

To apply please send a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references to:

Victoria MacPhail  
Pollinators at Risk Initiative Biologist  
Wildlife Preservation Canada  
RR #5, 5420 Highway 6 North

Guelph, ON N1H 6J2  
vmacphail@gmail.com

Please submit your application electronically as a single PDF or MS word file and include the email subject heading "Pollinator Field Assistant Application". Please apply ASAP as the position will be filled as soon as a suitable candidate is found. All applicants must be legally eligible to work in Canada. We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

To learn more about Wildlife Preservation Canada, please visit our web-site at [www.wildlifepreservation.ca](http://www.wildlifepreservation.ca).

\*A flexible schedule is required in order to cover project needs: there will be some periods of intense work and periods of limited work. However, salary will be paid out over the course of the contract based on a 37.5hr work week.