

The Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment



August 2021

**Expressions of Interest are currently being called for the
Volunteer Caretaker program at Waterfall Valley,
within the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park**

About the Volunteer Caretaker role

- Welcome bushwalkers and visitors to the Waterfall Valley Hut and provide information in relation to the hut resources.
- Share information about the Overland track and surrounding National Park, including walking tracks and points of interest.
- Build awareness, appreciation and respect for our National Parks by promoting the PWS principles of [Leave No Trace](#).
- Undertake minor site maintenance to ensure facilities are in clean, good working order and report any issues to PWS staff
- Work safely and collaboratively as a valued member of the PWS team

About Cradle Mountain

Iconic Cradle Mountain is a place of exceptional natural beauty in the heart of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. From moss-covered ancient rainforests, snow-covered mountain peaks, wild alpine moorlands and glacial lakes, the park is revered for its diverse and breath-taking landscapes.

Cradle Mountain is synonymous with nature, wilderness and all things pristine. Wildlife is in abundance, providing opportunities for visitors and volunteers to encounter Tasmanian devils, quolls, platypus, echidna, wombats and the highly inquisitive black currawong.

The Park offers a world-class system of walking tracks, including a range of short walks as well as the legendary Overland Track, being a 5-6 day hike that stretches 80km from Cradle Mountain through to Lake St Clair.

To review climate statistics for the local area visit the [Bureau of Meteorology website](#).

To find out more about the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park visit the [Parks website](#)

Information about the role

- The volunteer opportunity is available to either individual volunteers or volunteers working in pairs.
- Volunteers are asked to nominate their preference for either a one (1) or two (2) week placement.
- Placements occur during the Caretaker season, being 2 December 2021 to 21 April 2022, with each placement commencing on a Thursday.

DPIPWE provide:

- Accommodation in a two (2) berth hut reserved solely for Caretakers
- Cooking facilities, equipment and utensils
- PPE for volunteer activities, including COVID-19 cleaning materials
- Tools and equipment, including emergency and communication resources i.e. PLB and radio and first aid kits
- Site information and visitor resources
- Return accommodation at Cradle Mountain in PWS staff quarters for the night prior and after returning from Waterfall Valley

Volunteers are asked to provide:

- Bushwalking gear i.e. sturdy walking boots and clothing for variable weather conditions
- Food supplies (can be flown into the hut in advance upon request, but subject to availability)
- Living essentials such as all linen and sleeping bags
- Transport to and from Cradle Mountain

Training

Additional volunteer information, training and safety briefings are provided by PWS employees to the successful applicants prior to placement. Where relevant, previous Caretakers, may also assist by providing an overview of the role and their own experiences.

Before applying, all applicants are asked to read and become familiar with the *DPIPWE Volunteer Induction and Participation Manual*, available on the [DPIPWE website](#).

Advice for applicants regarding COVID-19

The PWS Caretaker volunteer program will be conducted in accordance with the Tasmanian Government's COVID-19 Safe Workplaces Framework. This includes the Department's COVID-19 Safe Plan, Volunteer Activity Risk Assessments, and relevant site plans.

In accordance with current COVID-19 Public Health Advice, individuals most at-risk are *encouraged* to consider their personal circumstances and complete a COVID-19 Action Plan in consultation with their medical practitioner. Changes to COVID-19 Public Health Advice may result in suspension of the volunteer program at short notice.

Applicants are also encouraged to complete DPIPWE Volunteer COVID-19 training, available on the [DPIPWE website](#). Following successful appointment to the program, volunteers will be required to complete the DPIPWE volunteer registration process.

Selection criteria

Volunteers are asked to demonstrate their skills, knowledge and experience in relation to the following selection criteria:

- SC1 Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills
- SC2 Bushwalking capability, including any remote bushwalking experience
- SC3 Demonstrated ability to live and work in a semi-remote location
- SC4 Knowledge of, or the ability to acquire, the cultural and natural history of Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair national park
- SC5 Willingness to undertake minor cleaning and maintenance
- SC6 First aid qualification(s) - *Highly desirable*
- SC7 A working with vulnerable people registration - *Mandatory*

While specialist skills are not required for the position, applicants are asked to identify any other skills, qualifications or visitor services experience that may be relevant to the volunteering role on offer. Please provide copies of any relevant first aid qualifications.

How to apply

Where applying in pairs, please submit a joint application that consists of 1 page per applicant outlining your experience, interest in the position, skills and knowledge as they relate to the above selection criteria.

Where relevant, please submit copies of any first aid qualifications and/or working with vulnerable people registration details (or indicate your willingness to obtain these certifications). Please also provide the names of two referees who would be willing to provide a reference as to your suitability to undertake the volunteering role.

As part of your application, please provide your preferred placement dates, including a minimum of 3 options, in accordance with the following information:

- Placements commence on a Thursday and end on a Thursday e.g. 2/12/21 to 16/12/21
- Placements are available for either 1 or 2 weeks.
- The program runs from 2 December 2021 to 21 April 2022.

Submit your EOI Application to: VolunteerNorthWest@parks.tas.gov.au

Closing date: Wednesday, 8 September 2021