

Environmental volunteering with National Grid

Community venue profile

The park is situated just north of Birmingham in an area of high deprivation. Many local people do not have access to outdoor space and this park provides a valuable resource

Aims of the day

The team leader spoke to Volunteering Matters before the day and wanted to contribute to the local community. The team wanted to engage a large group of 40 staff for team building and building networks within the department. The venue wanted a large amount of work carried out that would significantly improve the local area.

What Happened?

The team arrived at 9am and the team received an introduction and a health and safety briefing from the park rangers. After this the team worked together on a patch of land around the size of a basketball court. The team cut down and removed small trees, brambles and weeds. They then stacked timber in habitat piles and made dead-hedging borders for animals to nest in.

With all this hard work, the team had made a massive transformation to the area by the time they finished at 4pm.

Employee Team Feedback:

"I enjoyed all the tasks. It made a nice change as I got to know a manager I hadn't spoken to before!" – **National Grid Volunteer**

"I enjoyed the day and feel that everyone worked together well, we achieved a lot, but it was very tiring!" – **National Grid volunteer**

91%

OF VOLUNTEERS INCREASED THEIR SENSE OF PRIDE IN WORKING FOR THEIR EMPLOYER

85%

OF VOLUNTEERS FEEL MORE POSITIVE ABOUT THEIR EMPLOYER OVERALL

Results & Outcomes

The team had a great day together, lots of the team did not know each other before this day, but really bonded as a team. The team completed the task and the park rangers were very happy with the transformative effect they had had on the area.

Venue Feedback:

"We have had positive comments from a number of regular park users, including a local councillor. The impact to the community is in taking another step towards a safe, diverse park with much potential for recreation and education – **Park Manager**



For more information, please contact joe.flack@volunteeringmatters.org.uk or 0203 780 5918