Because nature and restored native landscapes are essential to human and environmental health, Cache Creek Conservancy’s mission is to preserve, restore, and enhance the Cache Creek watershed.

Our vision for the Cache Creek watershed is as a place where native species thrive while people learn and appreciate the outdoors.

For more information about the Cache Creek Conservancy and its projects and programs, please visit our website at www.cachecreekconservancy.org.

Cache Creek Conservationist Job Description

Position. A Cache Creek Conservationist for the Restoration and Tending and Gathering Garden (TGG) programs assists with routine restoration and maintenance work in the Cache Creek Nature Preserve (CCNP) and TGG. Volunteers, including interns, will be trained to safely use and maintain equipment (if necessary), how to record and analyze wildlife data, and how to identify and care for California native plants. Tending and Gathering Garden volunteers also will learn about California Native American landscape and cultural history and methods. Specific Cache Creek Conservationist responsibilities include:

• Monitoring drip irrigation systems in restoration plantings
  Checking for leaks, tears, need for repairs
  Repairing irrigation systems, as needed
  Checking soil moisture and altering irrigation schedules accordingly
  Set up remote irrigation using a solar-powered irrigation system

• Tending to native nursery stock
  Watering, weeding, trimming of nursery stock
  Monitoring nursery irrigation system
  Transplanting nursery stock
  Possible: building additional shade-houses, building seed processing equipment

• Managing Plant Populations
  Planting seed, plugs, and trees
  Physically removing invasive species from restoration sites
  Monitoring success in restoration plantings
  Identifying and flagging native plant populations
  Possible: Use GPS to mark and map plant populations

• Maintaining Trails
  Pruning limbs and branches, removing downed woody debris, etc. out of the trail system in CCNP & TGG
  Aiding with installation of interpretive signage throughout the CCNP & TGG

• Surveying for Elderberry plants and active bird nests along lower Cache Creek
  Surveying for elderberry plants at restoration sites which meet criteria for being critical endangered species habitat. Surveys will be conducted in congruence with CA DFW standards

• Surveying for evidence of (currently) nesting birds at restoration sites.
  Surveys will be conducted in congruence with CA DFW standards. These surveys will only be conducted through mid-August
Conservationist Time Commitment
Cache Creek Conservancy Conservationist agree to commit to a minimum 1 hour a week annually and for special events, such as planting or maintenance work days.

Qualifications
Being a Cache Creek Conservationist is an extraordinary experience for an individual who is passionate about the Cache Creek Conservancy’s mission and vision for the watershed. Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- Be an individual who is passionate about the outdoors, our native heritage, and our region
- Interest in native birds or plants and learning how to identify and collecting scientific data
- Volunteers need to be flexible, energetic, willing to learn, self-motivated and patient
- Available to volunteer for 1-3 hours on a weekly or bi-week basis during the weekdays or on Sundays
- Ability to follow direction from CCC staff
- Ability to handle unpredictable weather, work outdoors in rough terrain, carry heavy objects and walk long distances
- Attend training sessions as required for specific tasks or equipment and to shadow veteran volunteers or CCC staff members

Service as a Cache Creek Conservationist is voluntary and unpaid; reimbursement for some expenses related to the program duties may be available at the discretion of the Executive Director.