

NextGen Nature Collective member: Volunteer Role Description

About VNPA

The Victorian National Parks Association is an effective and influential nature conservation organisation. We've led the creation, protection and defence of Victoria's natural estate for over 70 years.

VNPA advocates for evidence-based policy to safeguard wildlife, habitat and protected areas. We inspire connections with nature through citizen science, activities, community action and education.

We're an independent, non-profit, non-government, and membership-based charity. We're an incorporated association with membership open to all like-minded people.

Our Vision: Victoria is a place with a diverse and healthy natural environment protected, respected and enjoyed by all.

About NextGen Nature

VNPA's NextGen Nature program is led by young adults, for young adults. We run activities to engage, connect and empower people to care for and protect nature. Launched in 2022, NextGen Nature gives 18- to 35-year-olds the tools to get hands-on with nature conservation in creative and impactful ways.

NextGen Nature helps people build practical skills in citizen science, communications, fundraising, and advocacy. Through field trips, workshops and leadership training, we empower young adults to stick up for nature.

Since launching, we've run campaign tours, citizen science excursions, and skills-building sessions, all designed to engage and inspire the next generation of nature lovers.

Now, we're stepping it up. After a successful pilot in 2022/23, we're taking the program to the next level. Expanding our reach, building our community and getting more young people involved in VNPA projects and activities.

About the NextGen Nature Collective

The NextGen Nature Collective advisory group is a volunteer team of passionate young adults who are driving the NextGen Nature program forward.

These innovators bring fresh ideas and creative solutions to get more young people involved in nature conservation. The group works together to shape the program's activities, meeting every 6-10 weeks to brainstorm, plan, collaborate and learn.

If you're passionate about sticking up for nature, this is the place for you. Let's grow this movement together.

What you'll gain by joining the Collective

- **Build your skills and knowledge:** level up your leadership and expertise in nature conservation.
- **Shape projects:** bring your innovative ideas to life and help design and implement dynamic projects.
- **Expand your networks:** connect with like-minded people within VNPA, partner organisations and the wider community.
- **Create positive change:** be part of projects that inspire and empower other young adults to take action and protect nature.



NextGen Nature nest box building day at Yalukit Willam Nature Reserve, Elsternwick, Bunurong Country. CONSUELO QUEVADO

Summary of duties

- Shape how we reach new audiences and share your ideas on how we can engage more young adults in nature conservation. You'll help craft communication strategies for our activities and workshops.
- Attend at least three advisory meetings annually (held every 6-10 weeks) to contribute to key decisions and guide the program.
- Join at least two NextGen Nature events a year.
- Help lead and support activities that bring the NextGen Nature vision to life.
- There may be additional duties as decided by the collective as we grow and evolve.

Selection criteria

Required skills and experience:

- Passion for engaging young adults in environmentally and socially important issues.
- Passionate about nature.
- Capacity and willingness to work as a collective.
- Motivated to learn more and get involved in nature conservation.
- Enjoy spending time in nature.
- A background in nature conservation is wonderful but not required! We're also keen to hear from people with different skills sets.

Desirable but not essential:

- Background in Natural Resource Management, Conservation Biology, Environmental Science, Environmental Policy, Media and Communications, Fundraising, Campaigning, Design or Law.
- Experience in advocacy, community engagement and education.

General conditions

All VNPA staff and volunteers are required to:

- Act in accordance with VNPA Code of Conduct.
- Observe relevant OH&S procedures and organisational policies and procedures.

- Work collaboratively with all staff, volunteers and contractors.
- Support a child safe organisation by being respectful to children and young people and complying with relevant legislative requirements.

Diversity and inclusion

We respect and value the diversity of our staff and volunteers. We're committed to creating an environment that values a diverse range of views, knowledge and experiences and uses these to maximise our impact. We welcome applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people of all ages, people with disabilities and people who identify as LGBTIQ+.

General information

Our office is located on traditional land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

For further information about the Victorian National Parks Association please refer to our website www.vnpa.org.au.

How to apply

Interested in becoming a NextGen Nature Collective member? Please send us 200-300 words covering:

- Relevant skills, experience and interests.
- Why you're passionate about nature.
- Why you'd like to join the collective.

Please send applications and enquiries to youth@vnpa.org.au

Applications are open on an ongoing basis

The NextGen Nature Collective is advisory in nature only. Direction for the Convenor is from the Executive Director via the Community Learning and Engagement Manager. Members of the collective actively participate in decision-making on any matter related to the NextGen Nature program when needed. However, members do not represent or act on behalf of the Victorian National Parks Association.

