



Garden Volunteer

How can I help?

At Dr Jenner's House, Museum and Garden we tell the story of one of the great innovations in world history; the discovery of vaccination by country doctor Edward Jenner. We want people to understand the significance of the work that took place in Gloucestershire two hundred years ago and to be inspired by Jenner's legacy. Open to the public as a museum since 1985, we now welcome 5,000 visitors from all over the world to Jenner's former home every year.

Our garden is steeped in history with traces of Jenner and the house's other former owners everywhere you look, from the 200 year old grape vines to the cyclamen allegedly stolen from the Vatican Gardens! Our Garden Volunteers are currently in the process of restoring Jenner's garden to its former glory. Already they have designed and created a Physic Garden to show our visitors how Jenner might have used medicinal herbs and planted heritage fruit trees. Next, we want to have a go at growing vegetables 'Georgian style' and start work to create a rustic area by the Temple of Vaccinia. Plus, of course, there is the day-to-day maintenance: pruning, composting, weeding and watering.

What will I do?

Our Garden Volunteers are a multi-skilled bunch who:

- Care for the museum's historic garden by pruning, planting, weeding, watering...;
- Look after Edward Jenner's vine and keep it fruiting every year;
- Plan new beds and borders;
- Explain their work to visitors and point out interesting plants;
- Keep a watchful eye on the presentation of the garden and put right anything that's out of place where possible;
- Attend regular briefings to keep up to date with the latest news and activities at Dr Jenner's House.

In addition, some of our Garden Volunteers are helping to develop and deliver tours and trails for our visitors. Garden Volunteers also take part in the museum's events programme, checking tickets for evening talks or stewarding our Discovery Day science festival.

Is it for me?

This could be the role for you if you:

- Know your roses from your radishes;
 - Want to take on the challenge of caring for an historic garden;
 - Are proactive and able to work to your own initiative;
 - Are keen to see our visitors have the best possible day out;
 - Enjoy working as part of a team;
 - Are mindful of working safely and keeping yourself and others from harm.
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Previous experience of gardening may be an advantage but is not necessary as a full induction and ongoing training is provided.

The museum is open seasonally, usually between April and October, however work in the garden continues throughout the year and usually in all weathers. Some of our garden volunteers come in for a full day once a week, others pop in from time to time to do watering, and some act on an advisory basis, sharing their skills as and when needed. We'd love to hear from you, no matter how much time you are able to commit.

What else do I need to know?

Volunteering at Dr Jenner's House, Museum and Garden is a great way to learn new skills, meet like-minded people and, of course, make a real contribution to our work as an independent charity. Our volunteer group is vibrant and friendly and there are regular social events and outings. Volunteers also receive free entry to most of our events, free entry to the museum for you and up to four friends/family members visiting with you, and a 20% discount in the museum shop.

Dr Jenner's House is located in the centre of Berkeley, about 2 miles from the A38. There is plenty of free parking and bike racks on site. Most of our volunteers drive or cycle as getting to Berkeley by public transport is difficult, if not impossible. The nearest railway station is Cam & Dursley. There is no direct bus service from the station, it is a ten minute walk to connect to the 62 bus service which links Dursley to Bristol, via Berkeley. We are unfortunately not in a position to reimburse expenses incurred in travelling to and from the museum.

We do need to say that this position is entirely voluntary and is therefore unpaid. If we offer you a volunteer placement there is no intention to create a legally binding contract between us. Any agreement may be cancelled at the discretion of either party. Neither of us intends any employment relationship to be created either now or at any time in the future.

To apply for this role online please visit jennermuseum.com/volunteer. If you'd like more information or need any help completing the form please contact 01453 810631 or email info@edwardjenner.co.uk.