

Eestimaa Looduse Fond



Estonian Fund for Nature

Volunteers in ELF

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Estonian Fund for Nature

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Estonian Fund for Nature



- **ELF** is a non-profit, non-governmental environmental organization established in 1991.
- The primary goal of ELF is to preserve the natural diversity and to advocate healthy environment in Estonia.
- www.elfond.ee



Volunteers in ELF



Oil spill respond team, made up of 2000 volunteers. In cooperation with WWF Finland. www.elfond.ee/en/what-we-do/sea/oil-pollution/volunteers



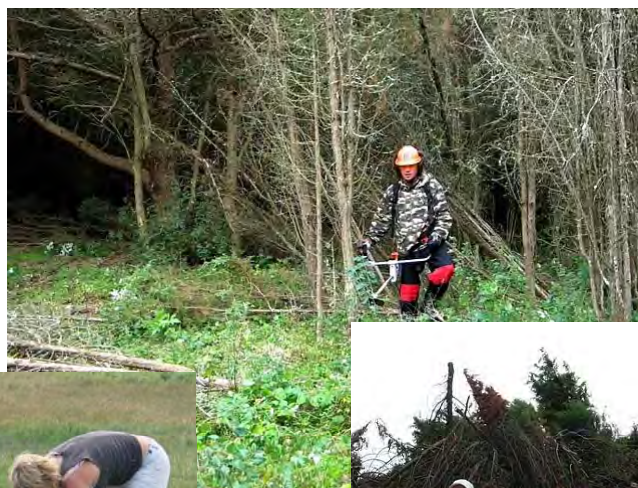
Day of Civil Actions – a campaign to encourage people to volunteer for their local environment in wider meaning. It has had 25 000 – 50 000 volunteers annually since 2008. www.teemeara.ee



Conservation holidays – longer volunteer projects to protect valuable and endangered species and habitats. Regular since 2001. Over 4000 volunteers over the years have worked on hundreds of sites. Called *talgud* in Estonian. www.talgud.ee



Talgud of ELF





Talgud of ELF

What do we mean by talgud?

- 3-6 day volunteer conservation project with 12 -15 volunteers.
- 6 hours of work per day
- hike or educational activities;
- socializing.





Talgud of ELF

What kind of work?

- restoration and management of semi-natural habitats (meadows and pasture)
- species protection (Natterjack Toad, other amphibians, bats).





Talgud of ELF

Why we do it?

- To get much needed conservation work done
- raise awareness of conservation and biodiversity
- to promote environmentally friendly habits
- to promote volunteering and active citizenship.



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Talgud of ELF

What's the volume?

We have about 40 projects annually with about 500 volunteers. 2010 volunteers completed 6346 working hours – 3,3 years full time work of one person.





Talgud of ELF

What ELF has for talgud?

- A lot of good friends and partners locally, nationally, internationally
- 1,5 paid staff
- 40 voluntary leaders to run talgud, few office volunteers
- good communication with volunteers and general public (www.talgud.ee, e-mail list of 2500, active media work)
- good set of tools and equipment





Talgud of ELF

Some recent activities:

- a sailing conservation holiday for two weeks in co-operation with traditional ship builders and funded by Port of Tallinn - talguregatt.wordpress.com
- talgud to promote social inclusion for ethnic Russians, deaf and youth at risk.



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Thank you!

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www.elfond.ee www.talgud.ee