

Position Vacant: Campaigner

Gardens of Stone Alliance

We are seeking a passionate and skilled individual with strong communication and advocacy skills to help us address the environmental impacts of local coal mines and a power station.

- **Position title:** Campaigner.
- **Reports to:** Blue Mountains Conservation Society and the Gardens of Stone Alliance, with a designated person appointed for day-to-day oversight.
- **Location:** Remote, working from home in the Sydney or Blue Mountains region preferred for occasional meetings and field trips in Katoomba or Lithgow area, Blue Mountains.
- **Hours:** Part-time, approx. three days per week (negotiable).
- **Duration:** Up to six months.
- **Working arrangement:** Self-employed contractor responsible for own insurance, super.
- **Remuneration:** Commensurate with experience and qualifications, up to \$400 per day.

Summary of the role

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society, on behalf of the Gardens of Stone Alliance, seeks a part-time Campaigner to support the Gardens of Stone campaign. This role involves executing a campaign plan to reduce the environmental impacts of the coal industry in the Lithgow region and in particular to advocate for a reduction of impacts on river and groundwater systems.

The successful candidate will gather and summarise technical information, build support amongst supporters, allies and the community and seek to influence government and political processes.

Job description

Key responsibilities:

- Develop and execute a campaign plan to achieve tangible results aligned with the alliance campaign strategy.
- Engage supporters, member groups and the community through campaign actions designed to build support and influence decision-making.
- Foster alliances and build collaborative partnerships with traditional and non-traditional allies and stakeholders.
- Identify, analyse and communicate key environmental impacts and issues, particularly concerning mining industry impacts on groundwater and surface water systems.
- Prepare concise summaries, briefing notes and reports to inform advocacy efforts for government and political processes.
- Provide input into regulatory processes relating to water pollution, mine and power plant operations and water use.
- Draft content for website updates, campaign materials, and media briefings to effectively communicate complex environmental issues to a broad audience.
- Understand and influence policy changes, approval process, political processes and industry proposals.
- Prepare monthly progress reports to the Blue Mountains Conservation Society.

Selection criteria

Essential:

- Demonstrated experience working on advocacy campaigns, ideally in the environmental sector.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with a talent for crafting clear and compelling campaign communications.
- Demonstrated ability to analyse complex technical information and present it in clear, accessible summaries.
- Demonstrated experience with building and maintaining strong relationships and collaborative partnerships with allies and stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to work with minimal supervision, take initiative and problem-solving.
- Strong organisational and planning skills.
- Strong commitment to environmental conservation.
- Has current driver's licence and access to registered vehicle.

Desirable:

- Extensive experience and successful track record working on advocacy campaigns, particularly in the environmental sector.
- A science degree in a relevant field (e.g. political science, communication, planning, environmental science, hydrology, ecology).
- An understanding of community organising theory and practice.
- Technical knowledge in statistics, geology, hydrology freshwater ecology and/or terrestrial ecology.
- Knowledge of NSW environmental planning legislation, water and mine regulation, and water management policies.

Application process

To apply, submit the following to recruitment@bluemountains.org.au by 11:59pm Sunday 21 September 2025.

1. A cover letter addressing each of the selection criteria (maximum two pages).
2. Your current resume (maximum three pages).

For inquiries about the position, please email recruitment@bluemountains.org.au.

About the Gardens of Stone Alliance

The Gardens of Stone Alliance is dedicated to protecting the natural environment and cultural heritage of the spectacular Gardens of Stone area on the western edge of the Greater Blue Mountains.

Alliance members include:

- Blue Mountains Conservation Society
- Lithgow Environment Group
- Wilderness Australia (formerly Colong Foundation for Wilderness)
- Nature Conservation Council of NSW
- 4nature

- National Parks Association of NSW
- Bushwalking NSW

A core focus of our campaign is to tackle the significant environmental harm caused by local coal mines and the Mount Piper Power Station. These operations threaten the Gardens of Stone, the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and Sydney's drinking water supply.

The Springvale coal mine directly supplies coal and large volumes of partially treated contaminated groundwater as coolant to the Mount Piper Power Station. While some of this water undergoes treatment, the process generates toxic brine which is mixed with ash from the power plant. This, along with significant untreated water has been contaminating Sydney's drinking water.

The Alliance is advocating to stop the coal industry from polluting creeks and damaging underground water sources. It seeks an end to water pollution, stricter water quality standards and the development of a comprehensive long-term plan to transition towards zero carbon emissions and an integrated management solution to legacy pollution sources.

More info

- Gardens of Stone Alliance: gardensofstone.org.au
- Blue Mountains Conservation Alliance: bluemountains.org.au

Version: 3 September 2025.