

## Interested in living and working for several months in a German Ecovillage?

**Sieben Linden Ecovillage is looking for one young volunteer from Sweden!**



Sieben Linden Ecovillage is an intentional community in a very rural area in the North of Germany. We are living with 140 people of all ages in a newly-built village where we strive to organize all aspects of our life in a way that we have a low ecological footprint. (For more informations about Sieben Linden, see next page).

**From February to Decembre 2018, we are offering the chance to live in Sieben Linden as an EVS-volunteer.** The young volunteers will work in the following fields:



The working time is 37,5 hours per week.

The volunteer is integrated into three different working areas, 2 of them run by distinct teams (to make the placement more interesting to you):

1. Guest Service Team and Education (15 hours per week)
2. Food self-sufficiency and food preparation (10 hours per week)
3. Freely chosen projects and activities (12,5 hours per week)
4. *Together with the other young volunteers, they will take responsibility for a one-week workshop for young people that will be held in may/june 2018 in Sieben Linden.*

### ***GUEST SERVICE TEAM AND EDUCATION***

*The EVS volunteers will be part of the biggest work-team in Sieben Linden, the guest-team. This is another group that will offer them stability and a clear task. This is as well the one field, where they are part of a professional work-team with its obligations and clearly assigned tasks. This "normal working experience" is part of the volunteering experience, but shall not dominate.*

*Compulsory tasks include work at the reception and welcoming guests, preparing breakfast, setting up the dining room for mealtimes and clean-up afterwards and different types of household-work like doing laundry etc.*

*Optional activities are:*

- *offering a kids program and child care during certain seminars,*
- *educational activities during Summer Camp or Open Days*
- *preparing and implementing the week-long Young People's Gathering together with the other volunteers*
- *PR activities e.g. blogging, making videos, presenting the organisation at suitable events*
- *baking cake (needed for some seminars only)*

## ***FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND FOOD PREPARATION***

*In this working area, the volunteers as compulsory tasks are supporting the cooks with meal preparation, mostly cleaning and preparing vegetables, picking wild food plants for the community kitchen, making preserves and a small amount of kitchen cleaning (no more than 4-6 hours per month of cleaning).*

*Optional activities are:*

- working in the herb garden*
- fruit picking*
- cooking*

## ***FREELY CHOSEN PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES***

*These activities can be related to existing projects and activities in Sieben Linden Ecovillage or they can be the volunteer's own initiative and they should benefit either the host organisation and/or the local community.*

*Some examples could be:*

- working in the vegetable garden*
- repairing bicycles*
- working on the construction site*

During the EVS, the volunteers will have health-insurance, full board and lodging covered, travel-expenses reimbursed and they will receive 110 Euros of pocket-money per month.

The European Volunteers will be part of the group of young volunteers of Sieben Linden that participate in other volunteering schemes.

The **small community of around eight young volunteers** is a sub-community of the big community of Sieben Linden Ecovillage. The two EVS-volunteers (from Slovenia and Sweden (*already committed for 2018*)) will share a caravan with two bedrooms which is situated at the „Young-people's place“ in Sieben Linden, where all young volunteers are living. All volunteers together share a kitchen and living-room and use the sanitary facilities in the main community house. It's quite simple living conditions – with wood-stoves in the caravan and some distance between caravan and sanitary facilities. It's embedded in the bigger community of Sieben Linden and the young volunteers have the chance to fully participate in the community life of Sieben Linden and in the sub-community of the young volunteers.



The community and working language in Sieben Linden is **German**. That's why some basic knowledge of German and the strong intention to improve your German skills is a prerequisite for participating in the EVS. The Erasmus+ Programs offers online-learning-tools to improve your German skills before coming here.

**Interested?** Please contact [lara.kastelic@gmail.com](mailto:lara.kastelic@gmail.com) or [info@siebenlinden.org](mailto:info@siebenlinden.org)

# What is Sieben Linden Ecovillage?



## Philosophy, Politics and Culture

Climate change, economic crisis, exploitation of human beings and of resources... at Sieben Linden, we develop and test answers on pressing questions of our time. We share no common ideology or religion. Like a social microcosm, the diversity of our community reflects the basic issues of life. What connects us, though, is the focus on a life in harmony with the Earth und all other Earthlings.

## Ecology

At Sieben Linden, the greater goal is a reduction of our ecological footprint i all aspects of life. So far, we have cut it down to 2,500 kg CO2-equivalents per head which translates into one third of the average ecological footprint in Germany. Resulting from our special focus on closed energy and resource cycles, it extends to the solar energy and hot water supply, to building with natural and regional resources like straw, clay and timber as well as to organic gardening for our food supply. Moreover, we enhance the populated area and its ecosystems by preserving and creating diverse habitats for flora and fauna.



## Social Life

By living together we aim at integrating individual needs into the communal life every day. Transparency and trust building amongst us, true and attentive communication, mutual appreciation and broad-based decision-making are fundamental tools towards this goal. Living together in full awareness represents a collective learning process of humans of all ages and social backgrounds.



## Economy

The communal project is a legal entity and stands on an equal footing. Land and infrastructure belong to the inhabitants as they are all shareholders of a co-operative. Our domestic budgets are our own responsibility. We seek for everyone to find their place in the whole. Thus, dispositions can become professions and new occupational challenges be embraced. Money entering the Ecovillage circulates here several times before leaving it again.



## Dedication and Education

Responsibility for a future worth living on this planet doesn't end at the fringes of the ecovillage. Through different initiatives and networks many of us are actively involved in society. Experiences and knowledge that we accumulate in Sieben Linden are offered in seminars and participatory workshops directly to people from all over the world.



Fore more informations, please check: [www.siebenlinden.org](http://www.siebenlinden.org)