

# Volunteer Shadow Ranger

## Community / Recreation Role

### Northwest Community Woodlands

Country	England
Location	Delamere, Linmere, Delamere, Northwich <b>Postcode:</b> CW8 2HZ
Position Type	1-3 days per week for 6 months
Salary	Voluntary
Closing date for applications	9 <sup>th</sup> August 2021

### Background Information

Forestry England are the country's largest land manager, caring for the nation's forests for people, nature and the economy. The foundation of our organisation is our world-class sustainable management of the nation's forests.

The Central Forest District has responsibility for the management of some 30,000ha of the Nation's Forests within a triangle formed by Liverpool, Hull, and Milton Keynes. This gives rise to a large diversity of users, customers, neighbours and pressures, all of which are interacting on a varied backdrop of land uses.

The District has three Community Woodland areas, in Nottinghamshire, The National Forest and the North West covering Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire. We are looking for up to 3 individuals to fulfill each shadow ranger role predominantly situated at each of these locations

- Greater Manchester - woodlands along the River Irwell corridor in Bury and Salford e.g. Drinkwater Park, Forest Bank, Silverdale, Moston Vale and Rochdale area.
- Wigan - to the south and east of Wigan, woodland include Higher Foles, Viridor (part of Wigan Green Heart) and Windy Bank.
- Merseyside - woodlands in the St Helens and Warrington area including Sutton Manor, Wheatacre, Brickfields and Upper Moss side.

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Each of these areas will be the reporting area for each role, please see [www.forestryengland.uk](http://www.forestryengland.uk) for further information about the woodland locations.

Community Woodlands are a key element of the land holding Forestry England manages, providing woodland for local communities to enjoy, for nature to thrive and timber to grow.

The Community Woodlands vary in size and facilities and are managed by dedicated and motivated teams. Forestry England celebrated its centenary in 2019 with a varied cultural engagement programme reflecting the past achievements of the organisation and vision for the future. As well as strengthening and celebrating our volunteer networks, we will build on the data collection collated during the Big Forest Find (BFF) and use it for the ongoing improvement of our woodland management.

We are proud to be able to offer a shadow ranger volunteer opportunities for individuals with an interest in pursuing a career in conservation, community engagement, recreation, site management, working with volunteer groups and the public and wanting to gain experience in the sector.

Successful applicants will be given training and development opportunities by work shadowing current community ranger staff. They will shadow staff and develop on the job skills, including development of practical site management, working within communities, volunteer management, engaging and working with the public, schools, and colleges. The Northwest Community Woodlands Shadow Ranger positions enables individuals to gain experience of managing our restored Community Woodlands and surrounding mature woodlands.

## What we offer

Training relevant to the role from your experienced member of staff you are shadowing along with gaining knowledge from wider colleagues.

Guidance and support in applying for further training or employment opportunities.

Genuine out of pocket expenses which includes travel expenses beyond your reporting station.

Volunteer parking pass after 35 hours of volunteering.

Volunteer uniform.

Formal training opportunities - first aid and manual handling.

## Purpose

Experience, encourage and support active community and volunteer involvement on countryside sites within the Northwest Community Sites; through site checks, litter

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picking, practical, outdoor maintenance work, visitor experience and safety and community involvement. Learn how to connect the community with their local forest.

Working as part of the Community Ranger team assist, support and help empower local communities to become actively involved in the care and management of urban fringe woodlands & countryside sites. Assist and provide support to a diverse range of people, experiencing a range of tasks, activities and procedures that rangers undertake within their role.

You will be expected to travel to the woodlands in one of the three areas specified above for the majority your time as shadow ranger, some additional travel to Delamare and other locations will be required for training and consolidation of your learning.

## Person Specification

### Experience

#### *Essential*

An interest in the environment, Forestry England, woodland management, or recreation.

#### *Desirable*

Experience of practical conservation, environmental education, working with young people or environmental management; through previous employment, voluntary work, or study.

Seeking a career in the environmental sector; countryside ranger, environmental or visitor services management.

### Work with Other People

#### *Essential*

Be approachable, open, polite, and helpful to others.

Respect diverse backgrounds, views, and approaches.

Willingness to work as part of a team as well as the ability to work on your own.

#### *Desirable*

Willingness and enthusiastic to lead groups and activities.

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## Communication

### *Essential*

Ability to listen and communicate with people from a variety of age groups, abilities, behaviours and backgrounds.

Ability to deal with difficult situations with tact, diplomacy and in a constructive manner.

## Deliver Results

### *Essential*

Motivated and capable of working under own initiative.

Prioritise and organise your time and resources effectively to meet agreed deadlines and objectives.

### *Desirable*

Understand and apply current legislation, rules and procedures relevant to the job (e.g. Health & Safety, Risk assessment).

## Learn and Apply

### *Essential*

Listen to and observe your mentor and rest of the team, demonstrate willing to learn and repeat tasks to build experience.

Be open to change and show a willingness to undertake appropriate training to develop new skills and confidence.

Take responsibility for own work, learning from experience, mistakes, and constructive feedback.

## Other

Able and willing to work 1-3 days per week, predominantly weekdays although may occasionally include evenings and weekend working.

This post may require you to hold and continue to hold, a full current driving licence. Duties will require you to be fit and able to negotiate rough terrain. However, Forestry England is willing to consider any proposal put forward by

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applicants that would allow them to do the role by other means. This role will require a DBS check.

## How to apply

To apply for this Shadow Ranger opportunity please complete the online [Shadow Ranger application form](#). Answer the questions on the form and explain how your skills, interests and experiences meet all the areas outlined in this Person Specification. Please use **examples** where appropriate, without detail we cannot see how you meet the role specification.

Specify you are applying for *Community / Recreation - Northwest Community Woodlands* and please state which area you are applying for

- Greater Manchester
- Wigan
- Merseyside

If you are unable to use our online application or need an alternative application method please email [centraldistrictvol@forestryengland.uk](mailto:centraldistrictvol@forestryengland.uk) and state which opportunity you wish to apply for and what your requirements are to enable you to apply.

**Closing date: 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2021 midnight**