

**Interview Date: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Training Week: 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

## Role Description

### Personal Attributes

Most Volunteer Rangers (VRs) live in or around the New Forest National Park. Whilst they come from all walks of life, volunteers have one thing in common – a love of the New Forest and the enthusiasm to help in its management and protection.

We are seeking self-motivated, adaptable, outgoing local people who are able to communicate with a wide and varied audience. You should enjoy meeting and working with people, providing assistance in a polite and constructive manner. We are looking for team players, but those who are also able to work on their own initiative.

While no formal qualifications are required candidates must have a love of the New Forest and an interest in natural history. Any previous experience of volunteering would be advantageous. This role is open to 18 year olds and above; there is no maximum age limit.

We hope that our Volunteer Rangers can support us for an average of 2 days a month. Demand for these positions is high and consequently we are looking for commitment to volunteering with the service in the long term. In particular, we need people who are happy and able to be flexible.

We are looking for commitment to volunteering during weekend and school holidays as well as Monday to Friday off peak. You will need to be able to get to and from duty points, which are not always easily accessible via public transport.

### Role Description

Volunteer Rangers carry out a wide range of tasks so there are many opportunities to acquire new skills and knowledge. In spring and summer, Volunteer Rangers can be found attending public events and patrolling the forest in the ranger van - to make sure that the public stay safe and enjoy their visit. Leading guided walks and engaging with the public at both the information unit at Bolderwood and the New Forest Reptile Centre. Also helping to support the New Forest National Park Authority, whilst they are out and about, engaging people with their mobile unit.

In autumn and winter Volunteer Rangers work closely with our other group – The Two Trees Conservation Team in leading and carrying out a full program of conservation

# New Forest Volunteer Rangers

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tasks; such as clearing the edges of woodland tracks to improve butterfly habitats and removal of seedling pine regeneration from heathland, to provide a good habitat for birds such as the rare Dartford Warbler. Volunteer Rangers help support leaders on the tasks.

## **There are additional opportunities to also:**

- Lead or back up conservation tasks.
- Assist with the public engagement at the New Forest Drifts.
- Help with events including the New Forest Show and our Christmas Tree shops.
- Supporting the rangers at Moors Valley Country Park.
- Run guided walks and events for the public.
- Help maintain both Bolderwood and Blackwater Arboretums

## Applying

An application form can be downloaded from <https://www.forestryengland.uk/new-forest/volunteering-the-new-forest>

A paper or digital copy can also be sent out by contacting [volunteers.southern@forestryengland.uk](mailto:volunteers.southern@forestryengland.uk) or 0300 067 4601.

Application forms to be completed and returned by **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019;** in paper form to The Queens House, High Street, Lyndhurst, Hampshire S043 7NH or digitally to [volunteers.southern@forestryengland.uk](mailto:volunteers.southern@forestryengland.uk)