

# Shadow Volunteer

## Shadow Community Ranger

### North West Community Woodlands

<b>Country</b>	England
<b>Location</b>	Delamere Forest, Linnere, Delamere, Northwich <b>Postcode:</b> CW8 2HZ
<b>Position Type</b>	1-3 days per week for 6 months
<b>Salary</b>	Voluntary
<b>Closing date for applications</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> July 2022

## 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 and Merseyside. 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 Folds, Viridor and Windy Bank.

Merseyside - woodlands in the St Helens and Warrington area including Sutton Manor, Wheatacre, Brickfields and Upper Moss side.

# Shadow Volunteers

---

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.

## The Role

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

Successful applicants will be given training and development opportunities by work shadowing current staff developing on the job skills, including development of practical site management, working within communities, volunteer management. The Northwest Community Woodlands Shadow Volunteer 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, risk assessment, and manual handling.

## Purpose

Experience, encourage and support active community and volunteer involvement on countryside sites within the Northwest area, through community practical projects, engagement and management of community interest groups and public expectation. Learn how to involve local people in the decision making and management of their local environment.

# Shadow Volunteers

---

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 in greater Manchester or Merseyside. 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 multiple woodlands in one of the three areas specified above for the majority your time as shadow ranger, some additional travel to Delamere and other locations will be required for training and consolidation of your learning. Use of your own vehicle to get to your reporting woodland location will be required.

## Person Specification

### Experience

#### *Essential*

An interest in the environment, Forestry England, recreation, woodland/facility maintenance and volunteer management.

#### *Desirable*

Experience of practical land management, 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.

### Working 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.

# Shadow Volunteers

---

## 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 weekend working to support Forestry England events or activities.

This post requires 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

# Shadow Volunteers

---

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 Volunteer opportunity please complete the online [Shadow Volunteer 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 Ranger - Northwest community woodlands**.

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 [volunteer@forestryengland.uk](mailto:volunteer@forestryengland.uk) and state which opportunity you wish to apply for and what your requirements are to enable you to apply.

If you consider yourself to have a disability the application form will ask you to provide details of any support you may need or reasonable adjustments we can make to enable you to fulfil the role (as outlined in the role description for the placement you are interested in). If you are selected for a Shadow Ranger role based on your skills and experience this will allow us to assess whether support can be safely and practically put in place or whether other alternative solutions are a possibility, in discussion with you.

## Key dates

**Application closing date: 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

**Interview: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

**Induction: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022**