Conifer Conservation

Nursery Volunteer

### About us

Forestry England is a part of the government Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and is tasked with the sustainable management of the Public Forest Estate for timber, recreation and wildlife.

Bedgebury National Pinetum is home to a world-leading collection of conifers. It is unique in the UK and of global significance for the purposes of species conservation, scientific advancement and the understanding of conifers. It is also a rich and biodiverse site providing habitat to a wealth of flora and fauna.

### Role Description

Under the guidance of our volunteer coordinator and nursery supervisor, you will assist with general day to day maintenance in the nursery and in the pinetum. You will work alongside our small nursery team and as a part of the wider tree team, according to seasonal tasks.

#### This role would be an interesting opportunity for volunteers to play a part in the care of our wonderful collection of plants, many of which have been collected from all over the world.

### When?

* Wednesday mornings throughout the spring and summer months.
* A commitment of at least 3 sessions per month.

Typical tasks include:

* Potting on
* Weeding of pots in the open beds, greenhouse and polytunnels
* Watering
* Pot washing
* Ad hoc tasks which could range from painting the greenhouse to maintaining the irrigation systems
* Planting in the pinetum
* Seed sowing and pricking out

### We’d like you to

* Have an interest in the conservation of trees and plants
* Possess excellent attention to detail
* Be willing and able to carry out maintenance tasks as instructed
* Enjoy working outdoors and as part of a small team
* Be aware of and adhere to a strict health and safety regime, including appropriate risk assessment paperwork
* Attend relevant training courses

### We will provide

* a volunteer registration prior to taking up the role
* a volunteer induction, training and support
* volunteer personal protective equipment as needed e.g. steel toe capped boots, gloves, glasses, hand sanitiser etc.
* volunteer t-shirt and name badge
* free vehicle admission on your volunteer day
* a free cup of tea or coffee on your volunteer days
* a volunteer’s membership for free admission to Bedgebury Pinetum throughout the year after 35 hours of regular volunteering (renewed annually)
* an invitation to the annual volunteers ‘Thank You’ BBQ and other volunteer events

### Who to contact?

If you would like to volunteer in this role please register your interest [here](https://public.forestryengland.uk/EOI/)

Closing date for expressions of interest is 12/05/2025.

Informal interviews will be held shortly after.

### Further opportunities

For more information about volunteering at different Forestry England sites please visit our website [www.forestryengland.uk/volunteering](http://www.forestryengland.uk/volunteering)