



Shadow Volunteer

Role Name Shadow Recreation Ranger

Forest Thetford Forest (Wider Beat)

Country	England
Location	Forestry England, East District Office Santon Downham, Brandon, IP27 0TJ
Supervisor	Jacob Goodier
Position Type	1 days per week for 6 months (No weekend's) Monday to Friday only
Salary	Voluntary
Closing date for applications	7 th July 2024

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.

With over 14 satellite sites within Thetford Forest which include 17 walking trails, Thetford Forest is one of the leading recreation providers in the county offering a wide range of outdoor activities to the public.

We are proud to be able to offer a voluntary opportunity to shadow the recreation rangers within the beat. The opportunity is ideal for individuals who are wanting to pursue roles within the sector.

Successful applicants will be given training and develop on the job skills, including development of practical site management, working within communities, volunteer management, engaging and working with the public.

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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

The Shadow Recreation Ranger will work alongside the Recreation Ranger to promote enjoyable a clean safe and welcoming environment for visitors. Health and Safety will be a priority as you follow the Ranger in his day-to-day activities. The focus of this role is to allow the Shadow to gain real world experience and gain skills.

There will be some weekend working required as part of this role.

Key work areas

Increase our value for money and maximise opportunities to increase income.

- Undertake practical management tasks while adhering to health and safety procedures and Forests PPG's. I.e., Risk assessments.
- Monitor sites and be proactive to issues.
- Establish good communication and working relationships both internally and externally.

Provide a built estate that is fit for purpose for all users.

- Carry out facility and trail inspections and ensure that defects are properly recorded and rectified in a timely manner.
- Assist in the maintenance of recreation facilities including, but not limited to, litter picking, installation and maintenance of signs, vegetation management, trail maintenance.

Embed a safety-first culture in our teams.

- Input incidents and accidents into Airsweb, collating all relevant information.
- Always ensure personal safety by following job risk assessments and by carrying out PPE and safety checks, in compliance with policy guidance.

Increase our capacity and effectiveness through partnership working.

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- Support the recreation team on event delivery by both Forestry England and third parties, to include monitoring of authorised permissions.

The key work areas detailed are the typical duties expected of the role but are not an exhaustive list. The post holder may be reasonably requested to undertake other duties by their manager.

Person Specification

Read this section carefully as it will help you complete the online application form.

We are not expecting you to have qualifications or previous experience in the environment sector. The Shadow Volunteer program is about giving you that experience. We are looking for enthusiasm, curiosity, ability to listen and learn, ask questions, show initiative, and take responsibility for the people and environment where you work.

The application form will ask you questions based on the person specifications below. You don't need to give examples related to the environment sector or forestry. They can be relevant examples from other experiences you have had.

What interests you in this role?

This is your opportunity to tell us about you and why you want to be a Shadow Volunteer. Give us an insight into who you are your reasons for applying to be a Shadow Volunteer.

Experience

Essential

An interest in the environment, Forestry England, woodland management, or recreation with a future desire to work in the industry.

Desirable

Self-motivated and a good communicator.

Working with Other People

Essential

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

Respect diverse backgrounds, views, and approaches.

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

Communication

Essential

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

Deliver Results

Essential

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 days per week.

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 applicants that would allow them to do the role by other mean.

This role will require a DBS check.

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How to apply

Please apply online by completing the [online application form](#). Make sure when applying, you type **Shadow Recreation Ranger**, when asked “Which volunteer role you would like to apply for”. For the Forest, please type in and select “**Thetford Beat Wide**”.

When completing the person specification areas please give examples of experiences you have had. These don't have to be in the environment sector they can demonstrate your experience or things you have done in any situation relating to the specification area.

If you are interested in multiple roles, you will need to complete multiple applications. You can, however, use the same information and answers for each so feel free to copy the information from one to the other, if you are happy this is correct.

If you have any problems with the application or questions please email victoria.tofte@forestryengland.uk

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 Volunteer role based on your application and interview this will help us discuss with you regarding what we can safely and practically put in place to enable you to carry out the role or other alternative solutions.

Closing date for applications: 7th July 2024
Interviews: Between the 22nd July and 9th August 2024
Induction day: 3rd September 2024