

We are currently looking for volunteers to join our learning team at Westonbirt Arboretum. The description of the volunteer role is below. If you think this might be of interest to you, please complete the 'expression of interest' at the following link: public.forestryengland.uk/EOI/

When you are asked on the form for the 'Forest Name', please type Westonbirt. One of our team will then be in touch. If you have any other questions, you can contact us via email at volunteer.westonbirt@forestryengland.uk

Volunteer Role Description

Learning Volunteer - Overview

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum is cared for by Forestry England. As well as ensuring Westonbirt's long-term future, its mission is to connect people with trees to improve the quality of life. Volunteering plays a fundamental part supporting this mission, providing essential help in maintaining the arboretum and making visitors feel welcome.

The Learning Team engages with visitors of all ages, delivering informal hands-on learning activities during family events as well as formal learning experiences with schools and colleges.

When

A minimum of 10 shifts over the year with at least 6 of these at the weekend or school holidays.

What's Involved

- Family events - engaging with families, helping them to explore and discover more about trees, the arboretum and the natural world.
- Morning, afternoon and all-day shift options to suit your availability
- Work mornings - One a month, usually on a Friday, miscellaneous tasks to prepare for events, school programmes, maintenance and sharing ideas

Another opportunity that may become available at a later date

- School visits - supporting the learning officer by helping all children to take part in the activities

We'd like you to be...

- Welcoming to all participants, of all ages, learning styles and needs
- Comfortable to approach visitors to invite them to take part
- Experienced in engaging and talking with children

We will...

- Provide training sessions covering induction, learning theory, engaging with the public, and the learning programme for the year ahead.
- Partner you with a current volunteer to support you in your role.
- Provide all materials needed.
- Ensure you are with another volunteer when out in the arboretum.
- Make you aware there may be periods of standing and that the activity may take place away from central facilities for up to 1.5 hours.
- Pay a contribution to the cost of volunteering travel.
- Help you to complete the required Disclosure and Barring System checks (an enhanced DBS is required for this role).