Heart of England Forest Volunteer Role Profile

Woodland Warden (Voluntary)



Volunteer role: Woodland Warden (Voluntary)

Hours: Perform at least one patrol per week, roughly 1-3 hours per

visit, self guided.

Reporting to: Volunteer Coordinator, Forest Ranger.

Location: Fixed locations across the Forest. Locations:

Morgrove Coppice (Spernal)
 Haydon Way Wood (Spernal)
 College Wood (Spernal)
 Dorothy's Wood (Dorsington)
 Coxmere Wood (Dorsington)

- Giddings and Noleham Woods (Dorsington)

Sheriffs Lench (The Lenches)Honeybourne (Honeybourne)

Date: December 2025

ROLE SUMMARY

We are looking for committed and enthusiastic volunteers who can commit regular time to monitor and maintain publicly accessible areas of the Heart of England Forest.

Working alongside our Forestry and Volunteering staff teams, as well as other Woodland Wardens, each Woodland Warden will work within a set area of the Forest, undertaking a variety of duties.

Performing regular patrols, Woodland Wardens will monitor the condition of trees, footpaths and signage, remove light vegetation growing across paths, remove litter, identify and record hazards, and provide a visible presence within our woodlands.

Woodland Wardens will produce a short report following each patrol, reporting back on the work they have undertaken, identifying items to be dealt with by Heart of England Forest staff.

Volunteers will be provided with necessary tools and equipment to perform their duties. We will also provide an item of volunteer branded clothing. We will provide training and development opportunities for all Woodland Wardens, with potential for unique development opportunities based on individual and site needs.

This role is ideal for volunteers looking for a routine commitment within the Heart of England Forest, undertaken flexibly in your own time. This role will also appeal to volunteers already walking a regular route within the Forest, providing additional duties on a favourite walk.

Benefits:

- Develop new skills, knowledge and experience monitoring an area of the Heart of England Forest
- You will receive training to support your role and future development.
- Play a vital role in helping the charity monitor and manage public facing areas of the Heart of England Forest.
- Should you require it, a written reference can be provided by the charity.

Responsibilities:

- Work with other voluntary Woodland Wardens to monitor a set area of the Heart of England Forest.
- Perform weekly patrols of Public Rights of Way and other routes.
- Remove light vegetation growing onto or obstructing footpaths.
- Pick and dispose of non-hazardous litter.
- Monitor the presence and condition of signage, interpretation boards and route markers.
- Provide a visible presence within our woodlands, wearing Heart of England Forest volunteer branded clothing.
- This role is dog friendly! If you have a dog, provide a visible example of responsible dog ownership.
- Identify and record potential hazards to site users or wildlife.
- Complete a short report after each patrol utilising a standardised form to inform the team of any issues or things we should be aware of.
- Undertake additional duties as required by the Volunteer Coordinator, or Forest Ranger.

Required Skills:

- Be physically active and able. This role will involve walking within a woodland area with
 extensive footpath systems, and utilising basic hand tools, such as secateurs, loppers and
 pruning saws.
- Be computer literate, for completing reports and undertaking other tasks.
- Able to access the Forest using own transport.

Desirable Skills

- Live nearby to the Heart of England Forest, cutting carbon by reducing travel times.
- Be familiar with an area or areas of the Heart of England Forest.
- Understand the role the Heart of England Forest plays within the local landscape benefiting both people and wildlife.

If you are interested in the Volunteer Woodland Warden role, please register your interest using the form linked below.

Woodland Warden Application Form

If you have any questions about this opportunity, please contact <u>volunteer@heartofenglandforest.org</u>.

ABOUT THE HEART OF ENGLAND FOREST

Planting tomorrow's great native woodland

The Heart of England Forest is an exciting and ambitious charity. We want to help reverse centuries of woodland decline and plant one of the largest forests in England. Our goal is to create a huge, unbroken woodland – a refuge from the modern world where people can rediscover nature and wildlife can flourish. It's an ambitious vision, which we're determined to make happen, one tree at a time.

The Heart of England Forest is not only a perfectly positioned lung for the Midlands, but a breath of fresh air for the nation. With over 2 million new native trees planted so far, we are restoring our native woodland – providing a safe and permanent habitat for wildlife as well as an escape for people from the urban environments surrounding it.

The Forest stretches up the Warwickshire / Worcestershire border, from the present-day borders of Shakespeare's Forest of Arden to the edge of the Vale of Evesham – the north Cotswolds to south Birmingham. It's an area dense in cities, towns and industry. Which is why we're creating a place to walk under shady canopies and through airy glades, away from the bustle of city life.

The UK has less than a third of the native tree cover of many other European countries, including France, Germany and Italy. Planting tomorrow's great native woodland has already started. With 8,000 acres of land, the Forest currently consists of 600 acres of mature woodland and 5,500 acres of new planting. We have planted an incredible 2 million trees so far, that's over 25% of the way towards our goal of a 30,000-acre forest. But with patience and your support, who knows how far it will grow!

More information can be found at www.heartofenglandforest.org