

# Volunteer Role Profile



Volunteer Role	<b>Dog Ambassador</b>
Volunteer Manager	<b>Volunteer Manager</b>
Where you will be based	<b>Community</b>

## Why we want you

Do you love the outdoors and dogs? As a dog ambassador you'll represent the Woodland Trust on site, providing a warm and friendly hello to our visitors and helping them to enjoy our sites in a considerate way.

## What you will be doing

- Representing the Woodland Trust by welcoming visitors to the site (ideally with your dog/s) in a warm and friendly way and sharing your enthusiasm for the site
- Walking the site on a regular basis noting such things as interesting wildlife, maintenance issues, site problems or damaging activities
- Encouraging considerate behaviour by dog owners by engaging with them in a positive way
- Provide visitors with important information they will need to get the most out of their visit by orienting them to the site, drawing their attention to pathways, points of interest and other site features
- Respond to any questions and queries that visitors to the site may have, including accessibility. Directing visitors to the Woodland Trust website for further information and contact details
- Promoting positive messaging by encouraging visitors to follow specific site guidance and proper use of the site. Report illegal activity directly to local police and your volunteer manager as appropriate
- Distribute leaflets and other Woodland Trust resources where agreed
- Keep an eye on Woodland Trust signs and interpretation boards, ensuring they are up to date, clean and in good condition. Keep leaflet holders topped up
- Monitor site condition, reporting any damage, incidents or issues to your volunteer manager
- Operating within our Volunteer Charter, policies, procedures, and guidelines
- As part of your role, you will need to log all the hours you volunteer through Assemble, your volunteering website, either on the desktop version or the mobile app
- Work within the risk assessment provided by your volunteer manager

## **The skills you need**

- A warm, friendly and comfortable manner when engaging with members of the general public. Confident and happy to initiate positive conversations with visitors to the site. Ideally be a dog owner, or at least dog aware and friendly
- Familiarity with the principles underpinning the woodland warden/dog advisor role in encouraging considerate behaviour by other dog owners at the site
- Familiarity with the woods being monitored
- Availability to visit the site throughout the year (ideally with your dog/s) and on a regular basis, particularly at busy times such as weekends and bank holidays, and at times agreed with your volunteer manager
- Willingness to attend training prior to taking up the role and to keep up to date with training, as requested by the Woodland Trust
- Apply engagement techniques using the training provided and have the ability to walk away from conflict
- Genuine interest and natural enthusiasm for conservation, wildlife and woodlands
- A sensible regard for health and safety

## **What's in it for you**

- Learn more about the Woodland Trust, its sites and wider conservation principles. Develop engagement skills and learn new ones
- A chance to connect with visitors and Woodland Trust staff and volunteers
- The opportunity to take part in various volunteering events, both face to face and online
- An excellent opportunity to support the UK's largest woodland conservation charity
- A full induction to the Woodland Trust and access to a range of training

## **Disclaimer**

An interview and two references will be required for this role, and training will need to be completed before the role commences. Please ensure you have known referees for more than 6 months and they are not a partner, close relative, or Woodland Trust employee. Former or current work colleagues, friends, volunteers, and neighbours that have known you for more than 6 months are some examples that would be fine.

Expenses will be reimbursed for return journeys from home based on public transport cost or mileage at standard rates for the Woodland Trust.

As a volunteer you may have the opportunity to support the Trust at events in your area. We will contact you when these occasions arise to see if you are



available and would like to help.