

Job description - Forest craftsperson (PB6b)

Job summary
<p>You will be working as part of a small team managing and maintaining the botanical collection and a range of different habitats at Bedgebury National Pinetum. This will involve using a wide range of tools and equipment such as brushcutters, mowers and tractors. You will also be a champion of our health & safety culture demonstrating our value of 'look out and look after' in our work.</p>
Key responsibilities & accountabilities
<p>Operational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help manage, maintain and develop botanical collection of trees. The work will involve weeding, pruning and planting of trees and shrubs. • Maintain various habitats within the tree collection. The work will include the management of vegetation, the application of pesticides and chainsaw use. • Operate tractors and mowers to complete work programs across the Bedgebury estate. • Carry out a range of practical maintenance jobs throughout the Bedgebury estate, working effectively as part of a team, and when requested responding quickly to unexpected work and issues raised by supervisors. • Undertake monitoring and data-gathering tasks such as the assessment of newly planted trees. • Support the Visitor Services and Learning teams in the maintenance of recreational facilities, including the repair and maintenance of trails, installation and maintenance of signs, picnic tables, benches and play equipment. • The role involves manual work almost entirely spent outdoors in all weathers in the forest environment. The job is varied and wide ranging, requiring close team working, enthusiasm and ability to deliver at pace across a range of skills and disciplines. <p>Team working and health and safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • operate and maintain tools and resources to required standards and make sure work on site meets our health and safety standards. • by effectively liaising with colleagues and stakeholders, plan, implement and deliver efficient work programs that help meet Forestry England's aims and objectives. • engage proactively and respond constructively to existing and prospective customers and present the highest standards of professionalism when representing Forestry England in the marketplace. • carrying out risk assessments working to high health and safety standards which are guided by FISA (Forest Industry Safety Accord). • We require all our staff to be welcoming, enthusiastic and approachable, with a willingness to engage with team discussion and with visitors to the forest in a polite and appropriate manner. <p>And any other tasks, reasonably requested by your line manager.</p>
Location-specific information (optional)
<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
Skills, knowledge & experience

Essential professional and technical experience

- practical experience in horticulture or countryside / environmental management.
- general understanding of forestry, arboriculture, horticulture, outdoor recreation and countryside- related issues.
- competently use a range of hand tools.
- awareness of health and safety systems relevant to practical countryside work e.g. risk assessments, Forest Industry Safety Accord (FISA) guides and lone working systems.
- competent IT user with experience in MS Office suite of applications.
- good interpersonal and communication skills, and ability to work effectively alone and as part of a team.

Qualifications

Essential

- Proven experience of working in practical outdoor environment
- Good interpersonal skills and proven experience of working as part of a team
- full UK driving license, however the Forestry Commission is willing to consider any proposals put forward by applicants that would allow them to do the job by any other means.

Desirable

- An interest in trees and the natural environment
- Use of a wide range of relevant tools and machinery
- Qualifications in horticulture/forestry/countryside-based skills.
- emergency first aid at work + forestry (F).