



Ranger Job Description

Position: Ranger

Salary: £25,000 per annum, pro rata for part time working.

Contract: Fixed term from 01.07.23 to 31.03.24. 24hr/week, 8am until 4pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Days can be discussed and hours adjusted slightly.

Organisation: The employing organisation is Northern Roots (Oldham) Ltd, company no 11258080

Based at: Northern Roots site, Oldham.

Summary:

This is an exciting opportunity to be part of the Northern Roots project. Northern Roots is transforming 160 acres of urban greenspace into a destination for learning, leisure and growing. The project aims to benefit the environment, and to improve the health, wellbeing and livelihoods of local communities.

The Northern Roots site runs from Alexandra Park near Oldham town centre to the border of Tameside. Two thirds of the site is forested. The habitat is varied from lowland mixed deciduous to plantation forest; heathland to diverse grassland; freshwater to amenity grassland. This landscape creates a varied wildlife corridor and includes a Site of Biological Interest.

Towards the north of the site Northern Roots is developing Visitor and Learning Centres, sports pitches, an urban farm, and a bike hub, while the southern part of the site, along the River Medlock, is more focused on nature recovery. Overall we seek to improve the biodiversity of the site by 25% through habitat management and creation.

As a Ranger, you will be part of our land-based team including our Growers, Environment Engagement Officer and Social Prescribing staff. You will work closely with the Urban Farm and Landscape Manager.

Your work will include being a presence on site, carrying out conservation and land management work such as but not limited to tree maintenance, path maintenance and construction, wildlife recording and litter removal.

Our land team hub is situated on our Apiary Meadow site, which presently includes workspace; a cabin with electricity, water, wifi and heating; tool containers; outdoor workshop; beehives; composting toilet; polytunnels and growing beds. This area will expand during 2023 to include a community seating area and orchard. In the second half of 2023, we will expand the Farm, complete phase one of the bike hub, and begin construction of the Visitor Centre and Learning Centre.

Job purpose

There will be no line management duties in this role, but you may be asked to supervise volunteers and trainees.

KEY TASKS

1. To work with the Urban Farm and Landscape Manager to carry out conservation and land management tasks.
2. To carry out growing activities such as but not limited to tree maintenance and removal, hazard removal, path maintenance and building; pond maintenance; litter clearance; fence building; woodwork; wildlife recording; hedge laying and tree planting.
3. Recording and raising maintenance tasks with the Land Team such as tree hazards, flytipping and path erosion.
4. Northern Roots is a multifaceted project and work is varied. From time to time, you may be asked to undertake or work on Infrastructure build tasks with the rest of the Land Team. You may also be asked to help prepare a site for one of our seasonal events.
5. You may be asked to run one off or semi-regular conservation volunteer sessions, citizen science sessions or help with the social prescribing programme depending on current priority tasks.
6. To upkeep and, at time, create record systems using Microsoft Office software, or other appropriate software.
7. To contribute ideas and experience to the Northern Roots project. We are in the initial phases of a number of projects and invite your contribution.
8. If skilled in identification, we welcome regular wildlife recording.
9. To join in staff meetings and work with the Northern Roots team to collaborate on projects that take place across the charity.

Holiday entitlement: 25 days' holiday per year (excluding public holidays) pro rata for part time working.

Pension contribution: 3%

Reporting to: Urban Farm & Landscape Manager