

2017/18 Heritage Landscape Arborist

12 month work based student placement within the Westonbirt Tree Team

Forestry Commission Westonbirt, The National Arboretum

Location	Westonbirt, Tetbury, Gloucestershire
Position Type	Full Time – 51 weeks
Salary	16,644 (GBP) approx
Start Date	July 2017 – to be agreed
Closing date for CV applications (and letter expressing interest)	31 st January 2017
Contact	Mark Ballard (Curator)
Email	mark.ballard@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Background Information

Westonbirt, The National Arboretum is one of the leading tree collections in the world today. Its main objectives are recreation, education and conservation. In excess of 450,000 people visit the arboretum each year. The Friends' charity has a membership of over 29,000 and supports the arboretum both financially and through volunteering.

The National Arboretum acts as a halfway house between the forest and the trees which people grow in their own gardens, and has an important role in promoting the role of the Forestry Commission to a wider audience. We currently manage around 15,000 specimen trees and shrubs, comprising almost 3,000 taxa, set within a 600 acre Grade 1 registered heritage landscape. Our mission is to 'connect people with trees'.

Purpose of the Job

To help our dedicated Tree Team manage both the specimen plants and historic grounds of the arboretum. To help maintain and develop the arboretum for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Key Work Areas

Arboricultural operations as part of a team - tree and shrub planting, establishment checks, pruning, dead-wooding, chipping, stump-grinding, mulching, tree protection, recording and mapping.

Use of chainsaws, equipment, machinery and vehicles.

Assist with care of young plants within our propagation unit.

General grounds maintenance – grass mowing, pesticide application etc.

Careful adherence to written work programmes and meticulous recording of work done.

Respond to public enquires in a professional and helpful way.

Person Specification

Experience

You will demonstrate a strong interest in trees and shrubs, and a willingness to learn skills from other members of the team. You will also have attained NPTC certificates in chainsaw maintenance and felling of small trees, as well as other relevant machinery operation.

Professional & Technical Expertise

You will either be studying or have already attained a qualification in arboriculture, forestry, horticulture or countryside management.

Work with other people

Seek to build good working relationships

Recognise when help is needed and willingly offer support to colleagues

Show flexibility within the team

Communication

Grasp key points when dealing with oral and written instructions, queries and problems

Listen actively and ask questions to check understanding

Deliver Results

Work without prompting and progress tasks using initiative

Show drive, not become easily distracted or put off by minor problems or setbacks

Be aware of the impact of own activities on others

Learn & Apply

Using your initiative, look for ways to improve the way in which we work and put forward suggestions for change

Keep knowledge and skills for the job up to date

Identify potential problems and offer practical ideas and innovative solutions

Other

This role requires you to hold and continue to hold, a full current driving licence. Please provide your driving licence in order for us to validate that you meet this essential job requirement.

Applications

Please send your CV with an accompanying letter confirming the reasons for your interest to mark.ballard@forestry.gsi.gov.uk