

Job of The Week

Forestry Worker

Key Skills

- knowledge of Maths
- knowledge of Geography
- the ability to use your initiative
- the ability to work well with others
- excellent verbal communication skills
- the ability to work well with your hands
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Salary

£15,000 - £27,000

Working hours

42 – 44

per week

Between 8am-6pm

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Forestry Worker



Top Tips

You'll need to have a Certificate of Competence, if you carry out hazardous tasks using a chainsaw

College

You could take a college course to learn some of the skills needed in this job

- You could do a Level 2 course in:
- Land-based Technology
 - Agriculture
 - Land Management and Production

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 4 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3, or equivalent, for a level 2 course

Apprenticeship

You could get into this job through a Level 3 Forest Craftsperson Apprenticeship. With experience, you could then do a Professional Forester Level 6 Apprenticeship

Entry requirements

Some GCSEs, usually including English and Maths, or equivalent, for an Intermediate Apprenticeship (Level 2), 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 or equivalent, including English and Maths, for an advanced apprenticeship (Level 6) and completion of the Level 3 Course

Volunteering

Volunteering for a woodland or wildlife charity is a good way to get some experience.

You can find volunteering opportunities with:

- Woodland Trust
- The Conservation Volunteers
- Forestry England

Career path and progression

With experience you could see yourself moving to different parts of the world or country, or:

- progress to Forest Works Supervisor
- become a Professional Forester
- become a Forest Ranger, working with Wardens or Conservation Officers to look after wildlife

Day to Day tasks:

- clear footpaths and nature trails
- put up fences, gates and public information notices
- maintain equipment, drainage systems and car parks
- cut down trees and branches and get timber ready to be removed
- protect the forest from pests and diseases and prevent forest fires
- clear undergrowth like shrubs and plants so you can plant tree seedlings

Working conditions

Your working environment may be physically demanding and outdoors in all weathers. It could involve travel. You may need to wear protective clothing



Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.
Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Forestry workers

Weekly Pay £530	Annual Pay £27,560
Hours/Week 57h	Hourly Pay £9

Workforce Change (projected)	
Contraction -1.5%	Replacement 54.1%

The workforce is projected to contract by -1.5% over the period to 2027, losing 100 jobs.
In the same period, 54.1% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 5,400 job openings.

You might find this job in
Agriculture, etc
Retail trade
Wholesale trade

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Gardeners and landscape gardeners

Weekly Pay £440	Annual Pay £22,880
Hours/Week 79h	Hourly Pay £6

Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 3.2%	Replacement 98.1%

The workforce is projected to grow by 3.2% over the period to 2027, creating 4,700 jobs.
In the same period, 98.1% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 143,000 job openings.

You might find this job in
Agriculture, etc
Sport & recreation
Computer programming, etc
Other personal service
Specialised construction

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Conservation professionals

Weekly Pay £650	Annual Pay £33,800
Hours/Week 39h	Hourly Pay £17

Workforce Change (projected)	
Growth 4.2%	Replacement 39.6%

The workforce is projected to grow by 4.2% over the period to 2027, creating 600 jobs.
In the same period, 39.6% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 6,100 job openings.

You might find this job in
Sport & recreation
Construction
Head offices, etc
Membership organisations
Social work

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Labour Market Information

Gardeners and landscape gardeners

Gardeners and landscape gardeners cultivate flowers, trees, shrubs and other plants in public and private gardens, construct features to improve the appearance of existing terrain, and cut and lay turf.

Common tasks in this job:

- levels ground and installs drainage system as required;
- prepares soil and plants and transplants, prunes, weeds and otherwise tends plant life;
- protects plants from pests and diseases;
- cuts and lays turf using hand and machine tools and repairs damaged turf;

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Forestry workers

Forestry workers perform a variety of tasks related to the planting, cultivation and protection of trees.

Common tasks in this job:

- prepares ground for planting by clearing vegetation and other debris;
- drains and ploughs land and erects and maintains fences as necessary;
- collects seeds, plants and prunes trees and selects and marks trees for felling;
- fells trees using axe or power saw and saws wood into required lengths;

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Conservation professionals

Conservation professionals are responsible for ensuring that landscapes, habitats and species are protected and enhanced via appropriate management and conservation. They promote public understanding and awareness of the natural environment and help to develop and implement appropriate policies to achieve these objectives.

Common tasks in this job:

- promotes and implements local and national biodiversity action plans, particularly with regard to threatened species and habitats;
- carries out environmental impact assessments and field surveys;
- implements, evaluates and monitors schemes for the management and protection of natural habitats;
- provides advice and information to government at national and local levels, clients, landowners, planners and developers to facilitate the protection of the natural environment;

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Useful Websites

[Volunteer With Us - Woodland Trust](#)

[Forestry worker | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[Careers | Forestry England](#)

[Kickstart your career in Forestry - Forestry Commission \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

[Home \(riseholme.ac.uk\)](#)

[Forestry education and careers | Arboricultural careers | ICF \(charteredforesters.org\)](#)

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

Forestry Careers



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73050YM4CnY>

Real Careers in Forestry



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plxE3ypzf3Y>

Day in the life: Forester



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbvPloSOx2M>

Plant a Forest



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=deSohuCoL_A

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