YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

JOB DESCRIPTION

**Job title:** Apprentice Ranger within the Western Ranger team

**Grade:** Pay is in line with current Government Levels and the Apprenticeship is subject to agreed salary and hours of work.

**Location:** Western TeamRanger Office, Orton, CA10 3RQ

**Responsible to:** Area Manager

**Responsible for:**  No line management responsibilities

**Mentors:** Area Ranger and Access Rangers

# Objectives of the post:

This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience of the maintenance of the public rights of way network, other access routes, open access areas, and estate property. The successful individual will be operating in area and Park-wide teams, and occasionally within wider project groups on various countryside management issues.

# Duties and responsibilities:

* To assist in the implementation and delivery of practical maintenance and restoration tasks on Public Rights of Way in the national park, access routes and access areas under the guidance of the Area Ranger, Access Rangers and Project Rangers
* practical maintenance works to the Authority's agricultural, amenity property, its car parks and public toilets
* practical management and maintenance tasks within Authority-owned woodland
* Complete the Countryside Worker Standard qualification through Craven College, Skipton

The practical aspects could include:

* signposting, waymarking and maintenance of footpaths and bridleway surfaces
* construction and repair of footbridges, stiles, gates, fences and signs
* dry stone walling, laying cobbles, paved ways and concreting
* construction and repair of culverts, drain laying
* fencing, hedging, ditching and drainage maintenance
* tree planting, grass cutting and weed control
* use of powered tools and equipment including chainsaws (depending on age)
* caretaking, maintenance and cleaning of National Park property and car parks, picnic sites, other land holdings and litter clearance projects
* communicating with community groups and other visitors to the National Park
* adhering to all health and safety rules and regulations.

To assist in the surveying and monitoring of:

* countryside furniture and condition of the Public Rights of Way network and access areas
* use and behaviour on the PROW network, Authority Property and Open Access land.
* assisting Area Rangers in various Countryside Management Projects

Support the Authority in reducing its carbon emissions by adopting greener working practices in line with Authority policies.

Comply with the Authority’s Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy and Codes of Safe Working Practice.

Such other duties as are commensurate with the objectives and grade of the post, as directed from time to time by the Chief Executive.

 **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**APPRENTICE RANGER**

The assessment of the following criteria and your suitability for the role will be undertaken via either the information you provide on your application form (A) or during an interview (I)

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| **Qualifications and Training** | **Essential** | **Desirable** | **A / I**  |
| No formal qualifications necessary |  |  |  |
| Willingness to train and study for the Countryside Worker Standard qualification and additional training opportunities provided | **✓** |  | A&I |
| Full Driving Licence |  | **✓** | A |
| **Experience and Knowledge** |
| No previous work experience necessary |  |  |  |
| **Skills** |
| Good interpersonal skills and the ability to get on well with other members of the ranger team | **✓** |  | I |
| Able to communicate well with other National Park staff and the general public |  | **✓** | I |
| Strong interest in learning practical conservation/field skills | **✓** |  | A&I |
| Capable of demonstrating initiative in dealing with unforeseen circumstances when undertaking practical work | **✓** |  | I |
| Willingness to work hard to complete the practical parts of the apprenticeship |  | **✓** | I |
| keen interest in and a firm commitment to, countryside conservation and the aims of the National Park |  | **✓** | I |
| **Other** |
| Commitment to providing and delivering a high standard of customer service to the public and community | **✓** |  | I |
| Have a flexible approach to visiting sites including a level of fitness required to undertake the physical elements of the role, including walking long distances across often rough ground, lifting, carrying and other manual tasks | **✓** |  | I |

**BEHAVIOURS**

| **Assessment at Interview** |
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| **Improvement** We will continually strive to improve our performance in delivering National Park purposes. |
| Shows enthusiasm and commitment to our vision, purposes and work |
| Finds practical ways to overcome barriers; and adopts new practices to help get the job done |
| Challenges ineffectiveness and generates new and imaginative solutions |
| Concentrates their resources on work priorities most important to the Authority |
| Seeks to improve knowledge and expertise and applies good practice |
| **Accountability** We will explain and take responsibility for our decisions and actions. |
| Presents clear, concise and accurate information in a way that promotes understanding |
| Shares what we know and respects the information we are given |
| Clearly agrees with others what is expected of them and holds them to account |
| Assesses risks and learns from their own and others’ mistakes; strives to do things in a safe way |
| **Commitment** We will do what we say we will do |
| Takes responsibility for making things happen by having a positive ‘can do’ attitude |
| Has the courage to take and implement difficult or unpopular decisions where necessary |
| Uses Authority policy in decision making and working practices |
| Knows what the Authority’s objectives are, and works hard to achieve them |
| **Integrity** All our relationships will be built on honesty, transparency, equality and impartiality.  |
| Shows integrity and fairness in decision- making |
| Ensures decision-making processes are clear and transparent |
| Welcomes and respects diversity; demonstrates equality in working relationships |
| **Open and Approachable** We will work with others honestly and openly to achieve our objectives in ways that help them meet theirs. |
| Co-operates with people and organisations to achieve our objectives and theirs |
| Engages in discussion on an Authority view or policy internally; but presents unity of message externally |
| Listens and considers other views |