

Position: Maintenance Manager

Salary: £22,000

Position: Full time, permanent

Applications close: Jan 30th 2021

The Wildwood Trust is a unique British charity, dedicated to rewilding Britain through the restoration of wild habitats and reintroduction of extinct species. Wildwood became a charity in 2002 and now works solely for wildlife conservation and public education. In 2015 Wildwood Trust took over the running of the animal park at Escot, near Ottery St Mary, now named **WILDWOOD ESCOT**, to develop a new rewilding visitor centre. We inform and inspire people with the story of British wildlife past and present, giving people the inspiration, skills and ability to play an active role in its protection and restoration.

As a charity, Wildwood's ultimate success will depend on the value our employees can deliver to our members, donors and visitors.

Our Mission: Protecting, Conserving & Rewilding British Wildlife

When you join Wildwood Escot you become part of a small but ambitious team of dedicated and passionate people who aspire to continuously develop and expand our park. This in turn contributes to the Trust's overall aim and mission to protect, conserve and rewild British Wildlife.

Everything we do contributes to that aim: every employee has an important role to play within Wildwood Escot. We celebrate when things are going well; we pull together with a strong teamwork ethic when the going gets tough. We believe employee development is fundamental to a high performing, happy and engaged workforce, therefore we invest in your training and support. We care about your well-being. We employ people who share our values and vision and this is demonstrated in their commitment to their colleagues and their exemplary customer service provision. You work for us knowing your efforts are making a difference to the lives of native and formerly native British animals and you are helping to conserve and restore Britain's wild spaces for future generations.

Maintenance Manager Position

We have a unique opportunity for a highly motivated, confident individual to take the lead on our challenging maintenance and development programme.

The successful applicant will have a proven background in the oversight, management and delivery of construction projects. Specific experience within the family attractions, zoos and/or agricultural/animal management sectors would be highly valued, though not essential.

Day-to-day, the Maintenance Manager will plan, organise and deliver a range of routine maintenance tasks including grounds-keeping, animal enclosure, visitor facilities and buildings maintenance. Working with other departmental managers, you will record, plan and coordinate the ongoing maintenance needs of the park, judging priorities, costs, safety issues, etc., and allocating appropriate staff time and resources.

Working closely with the General Manager, and coordinating with other departments, you will play a significant role in the planning, design and delivery of a number of complex build projects to meet

the demands of our expanding animal collection. This will necessitate hands-on experience in a wide variety of construction disciplines.

You will be expected to identify and source the right materials and acquire them at the best possible prices, coordinating delivery according to the logistical demands of the project.

Where necessary, you will be expected to work with a range of outside contractors, verifying their qualifications/certificates/insurance and safe working practices, acquiring and evaluating quotes, establishing on-site work practices. Your oversight of contractors will ensure that all health & safety standards are maintained, and that contractual obligations, deadlines, standards of work, etc., are met, taking appropriate steps to intervene where necessary.

Where necessary, you will be expected to work with local planning, HSE and Building Regulations representatives to ensure that on-site projects are conducted according established standards and procedures.

As a departmental management role, it will entail a number of associated responsibilities in HR, Health & Safety, Financial Admin and Budget Management.

The post demands an individual able to demonstrate strategic thinking with substantial managerial and problem-solving ability capable of meeting and overcoming a broad range of logistical and situational challenges. Excellent leadership and communication skills are therefore a must.

Advantageous Knowledge and Skills:

- Construction project management
- Construction site management
- Formal training/qualification in at least one construction discipline
- Demonstrable experience in a variety of construction disciplines
- Small to medium sized plant operation
- Chainsaw operation
- Formal Health & Safety training and experience
- Demonstrable experience in the effective management of health and safety issues
- Outstanding team leadership and organisational skills
- A comprehensive working knowledge of building regulations
- A comprehensive working knowledge of planning procedures
- Comprehensive commercial awareness and budget management experience
- Demonstrable experience in routine HR administration and team management
- A comprehensive working knowledge of horticultural issues
- A genuine knowledge, passion and enthusiasm for the natural world
- A working knowledge of wildlife and environmental conservation issues

Interpersonal skills, essential:

- Highly motivated with a strong commitment to meeting the Charity's objectives
- Highly adaptable, able to prioritise and operate effectively on own initiative
- The ability to identify and solve problems with minimal management oversight
- Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate at all levels
- Ability to prioritise and manage time effectively
- Ability to judge, set and work to deadlines

- Able to work well as part of a team, and establish constructive and collaborative relationships with colleagues
- Excellent communication and presentation skills
- Ability to manage and motivate others
- Reflective and able to evaluate your work critically

Application:

Please apply in writing, providing a CV and covering letter detailing your suitability for the position.

Email: george@wildwoodtrust.org

Interviews will be conducted throughout February according to the applicant's availability.