

Maintenance Assistant

Role Description

You will be a big part of the team that looks after and improves Dartmoor Zoo's infrastructure, from wild gardening to outdoor carpentry.

Hours: Full time (37.5 hours per week), or part-time can be considered.

Contract: Permanent

Salary: Dependent on experience

Key tasks:

Maintain and repair all areas of the Zoo.

- Perform grounds keeping to maintain a positive appearance, especially in guest areas.
- Maintain and repair all Zoo buildings and structures, including animal houses and enclosures.
- Help to create, develop or rebuild new animal houses and enclosures in line with the animal collection plan, and create appropriate access paths for the public and staff.
- Be proactive and identify and assist in scheduling works to prevent longer-term issues.
- Supervise, coach and work with volunteering groups and individuals assigned to the maintenance department.
- Help manage contractors as required around site.
- Answer questions from the visiting public in a courteous and informative manner, or seek appropriate assistance from another team member.
- Support the Maintenance Manager and Health and Safety compliance, by performing park safety checks, assist on creating risk assessments, scheduling work and researching materials.
- Assist in ensuring all tools and equipment are maintained and fit for purpose.
- Adhere to all Zoo Health and Safety Policies and Procedures.
- Undergo training to maintain skills and course certifications appropriate to the tasks required.
- Support and coach others within the zoo on basic maintenance skills, including the keepers and other maintenance team members.
- Undertake any other relevant tasks to support the Charity.

Our ideal candidate will:

- Have experience in all areas of maintenance, or experience of the building trade.
- Have a set of certified skills (for example, plumbing, carpentry, mechanical or electrical qualifications) or be able to evidence these skills.
- Understand the importance of complying with health and safety in the workplace.
- Be competent with IT (updating spreadsheets and using word documents).
- Have the ability to write risk assessments and short reports.
- Be physically able to undertake a variety of maintenance tasks.
- Have self-motivation and be able to inspire others.
- Think for themselves, as well as follow instructions.
- Have experience of leading or directing a team of unskilled people.
- Appreciate animal needs and stand behind our values and principles.