



Lancashire,
Manchester &
N Merseyside

Red Squirrel Project

Squirrel Monitoring

Volunteer Role Description

About the Lancashire Wildlife Trust

We are part of the Wildlife Trusts movement, the UK's leading conservation charity dedicated to all wildlife. We are your local charity, working hard to improve your local area for wildlife and for you.

The Trust manages over 2,000 acres of some of the region's most precious wild places in the form of 37 nature reserves and 20 Local Nature Reserves. These provide places where wildlife can thrive and people can relax and enjoy the wealth of our natural heritage.

About the Role

We run a bi-annual monitoring programme every spring and autumn to establish the distribution of red and grey squirrels throughout north Merseyside and west Lancashire. This is undertaken for 3 weeks in March and 3 weeks in October. We need volunteers to undertake visual transects, put up hair tubes and trail cameras, monitor garden feeders and review trail camera images.

- Visual transects
 - Defined route that must be walked 3 times within the 3 week period
 - Walks begin 30 minutes after sunrise
- Garden monitoring
 - Do you have red squirrels visiting your garden?
 - Squirrel feeder monitored 3 times within the 3 week period
 - Each monitoring session is 90 minutes
- Trail cameras
 - Feeder, bait and trail camera provided
 - After 1 week feeder and camera must be checked and feeder re-baited
- Reviewing trail camera images
 - Requires access to computer and internet so images can be shared but then can be reviewed in own time.

What's in it for you?

- Learning new skills
- Working towards the conservation of an endangered species
- Option to join the Red Alert volunteer group who meet 3 times a year to keep up to date on red squirrel conservation in the area

What's involved?

- Must be able to commit to completing monitoring within the 3 week period
- Working alone early in the mornings
- Results must be returned to LWT
- Full training will be provided – no experience necessary
- Becoming familiar with and then following the Lancashire Wildlife Trust's Health and Safety policy at all times

This role will suit people who;

- Have an interest in nature conservation and species management
- Like to be outside
- Don't mind early mornings
- Preferably have own transport as some sites are not easily accessible by public transport

Extra information

Your place	Various woodland sites throughout north Merseyside and west Lancashire
Time commitment	Monitoring is undertaken for 3 weeks in March and 3 weeks in October but flexible within this time frame.
Volunteer Manager	Rachel Cripps rcripps@lancswt.org.uk 07590 745862
Training/Resources	LWT Volunteer Induction Access to the Volunteer Training Programme Health and Safety Training Manual Handling Training Eligible to apply for internal vacancies (once induction has been completed)
Expenses	Out-of-pocket travel costs between home and volunteering place will be paid up to a maximum of £4 per day, and other reasonable subsistence/expenses agreed in advance.

This role is purely voluntary and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract