



The Wildlife Trust for  
**Lancashire  
Manchester &  
North Merseyside**

**Red Squirrel Project**  
**Urban Trap Loan Scheme**  
**Grey Squirrel Control Volunteer**

## **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/Project**

The Red Squirrel Project works to maintain red squirrels in the Merseyside and West Lancashire Stronghold through control of grey squirrels, monitoring of squirrel populations and public engagement. A major part of the project is controlling grey squirrels in the urban areas, particularly Formby, Ainsdale, Southport, Crosby, Scarisbrick and Maghull (and beyond) through a trap loan scheme. All traps are humane, live-capture traps and red squirrels can be easily released unharmed.

We are looking for dynamic and enthusiastic volunteers who live in or around Formby, Ainsdale, Southport, Crosby, Scarisbrick or Maghull to assist with issuing traps to members of the public and humanely dispatching any grey squirrels trapped. We understand that controlling grey squirrels comes with great responsibility, not just to ensure that our staff and volunteers are acting legally but also safely and humanely and full training will be given.

## **What's in it for you?**

- Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team
- Learning new skills
- Working towards the conservation of an endangered species

## **What's involved?**

- Issuing traps to members of the public who have requested them
- Explaining how to use and set the traps and the relevant legislation around trapping grey squirrels
- Keeping accurate records of trap locations and collecting back in when no longer needed
- Collecting and humanely dispatching grey squirrels trapped (either shooting with own air pistol/air rifle or via cranial dispatch – full training will be given)

### **This role will suit people who;**

- Live in or around Formby, Ainsdale, Southport, Crosby, Scarisbrick or Maghull
- Have good communication skills and enjoy talking with the public
- Have a full driving license and be willing to use their own vehicle for transporting traps
- Are comfortable with the idea of controlling grey squirrels to conserve red squirrels and are willing to undertake dispatch themselves

### **Extra information**

<b>Your place</b>	North Merseyside and West Lancashire red squirrel stronghold.
<b>Time commitment</b>	Flexible We hope people will volunteer with an interest in benefiting LWT in the long term
<b>Volunteer Manager</b>	Red Squirrel Officer <a href="mailto:red.squirrel@lancswt.org.uk">red.squirrel@lancswt.org.uk</a> 07590 745 862
<b>Training/Resources</b>	LWT Volunteer Induction Collection and humane dispatch of grey squirrels Competency assessment for dispatch Health and Safety Training Manual Handling Training Eligible to apply for internal vacancies (once induction has been completed)
<b>Expenses</b>	Out-of-pocket travel costs between home and volunteering place will be paid up to a maximum of £8 per day, and other reasonable subsistence/expenses agreed in advance.
<b>Requirements</b>	Full driving licence and own vehicle

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