

Role Description

Parish RoW Surveyor Volunteer

As a Rights of Way Volunteer working with the Countryside & Rights of Way team (CRoW) you can help to survey, maintain and improve the network of routes across Hertfordshire.

There are more than 3,000km of footpaths, bridleways and byways in the county providing opportunities for people to enjoy the outdoors on foot, horseback or bicycle. Volunteering allows you to contribute to the upkeep of these wonderfully varied routes whether it be walking or riding to complete a survey or carrying out practical improvements outdoors in small teams.

As a Surveyor, you are the eyes and ears of the county's Rights of Way team. You will carry out surveys, report on problems and make simple repairs such as replacing a waymark disc or trimming small areas of encroaching vegetation.

By 'adopting' a Parish, Volunteer Surveyors choose when and where they would like to walk, reporting on the paths as they go. This is a great way to explore your local area as the aim is to survey all the paths within the parish. Surveyors report as and when they need to, covering each path no more than once every 6 months.

Induction & Training

This next step is to allocate an appropriate Parish to suit. These are often limited in availability and will ideally be the prospective volunteer's home Parish.

Prospective volunteers will then be invited to attend a training day following receipt of a completed registration form. This half day course will cover:

- An introduction to CRoW
- An introduction to Rights of Way and the different designations
- Faults and how to record them
- Faults that can be rectified immediately
- Tools
- How to waymark routes
- Health & safety
- A chance to ask any questions

When & where?

This role can be undertaken in whichever way suits the Volunteer. A few paths a month, or all in one go! Having all Rights of Way surveyed twice a year is the ideal, but once a year is also good.

Support & benefits

Every volunteer will have direct access to their CRoW staff contact.

CRoW provides a selection of optional tools and a backpack to help with fixing faults as they are found.

Expenses can be claimed for training days, but not for surveying itself.

Recognition

Our ambitious project to have every Parish in Hertfordshire surveyed by a Volunteer has been well publicised and gained much interest from within the County Council as well as Parish Councils and walking groups. Most Parishes have now been allocated a Volunteer so you would be joining a large team of Surveyors who are all walking to achieve the common goal of making Rights of Way more accessible to all.

CRoW has a very active Facebook page (@hertscms) where volunteer activity is posted to an audience of 100's and sometimes even 1000's!

CRoW Managers update Hertfordshire County Council's Executive Team regularly to ensure they are aware of volunteering successes.

CRoW hold the Investing in Volunteers (iV) accreditation. iV is a nationally recognised quality standard for volunteer management.

CRoW regularly nominate volunteers for awards such as Comet Community Awards and Volunteering Herts.

Volunteer Policy

A copy of the CRoW Volunteer Policy should have been sent to you along with this Role Description. Please take the time to read it as it has important information about being a CRoW Volunteer. On the Registration Form we ask you to sign that you have read the Volunteer Policy.

Please ask for a copy if you have not been sent it already.

Contact Us

Hopefully you are now ready to get involved! Please get back in touch with your CRoW contact. If you're not sure who that is, here are our main office details:



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www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/cms



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