

### Seasonal Grounds Warden

**Directorate:** Operations

**Location:** Slimbridge

**Reporting to:** Assistant Grounds Manager

**Grade:** 4

**Main function of the post:** To assist with all aspects of maintaining the grounds and collection exhibits

---

### Responsibilities of the post

- To share responsibility for maintaining and presenting all areas within the grounds to a high standard including exhibit preparation, fencing, anti-erosion, lawned areas, weed control, planting, watering, pruning, pollarding, path cleaning, topping up of aggregates/dressings and tree surgery.
- To assist with play area maintenance and cleaning
- To assist with landscape design and implementation of planting schemes.
- Composting and green waste processing
- To operate machinery (which includes but not limited to tractors, flail cutters, pedestrian and ride on lawn mowers, trimmers/ brushcutters and spraying equipment etc.) with proper regard to safety regulations.
- Use all tools safely and correctly; and observe and apply Health & Safety regulations at all times.
- To ensure the safety, welfare and enjoyment of the visiting public.
- To engage with visitors including giving spot talks and information.
- To assist with the training of volunteers and trainees.
- To assist with supervision of seasonal staff, volunteers and students undertaking work placements.
- To provide cover duties for grounds cleaners and implement zoonotic disease reduction measures.

In addition to the duties and responsibilities listed, the post holder is required to perform any other reasonable duties that may be assigned by the supervisor shown above.

## Person Specification

### 1. Qualifications

**Essential:**

- A level standard or equivalent
- NVQ Level II in horticulture or land based industry
- Certificate in the use of brushcutter
- Current full driving licence

**Desirable:**

- Certificate in the storage and use of pesticides and herbicides (NPTC levels PA1. PA6)
- Certificate in the use of chain saws
- Certificate in tractor, trailer and PTO implements
- Certificate in the use of a telehandler
- Certificate in the use of Brushwood Chipper

### 2. Experience

**Essential:**

- Previous experience in horticulture and or grounds maintenance within a visitor attraction / public open garden.
- Demonstratable horticultural background and a natural empathy with birds and animals
- Experience in the operation of plant equipment and agricultural vehicles including tractors
- Be computer literate

**Desirable:**

Familiar with Microsoft office

### 3. Managerial & Supervisory

| Type of staff               | Number managed | Number supervised                                              |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Employed Staff              | 0              | 0                                                              |
| Volunteers / Casual Workers | 0              | up to 3 with the occasional corporate group of up to 30 people |
| Contractors                 | 0              | 0                                                              |

### 4. Responsibility

**Essential:**

- Exhibit preparation / maintenance
- Assist with landscape design

- Safe use of plant and machinery in public areas
- Monitoring personal use of equipment and recording HAVS
- Daily pre start machinery checks

### ***Levels of financial responsibility***

| Type of Responsibility                    | Level (£'s)                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Expenditure (exc. payroll)                | 0                                                                                                          |
| Cash Handling                             | 0                                                                                                          |
| Assets (required for job, exc. buildings) | Machinery up to £30k                                                                                       |
| Visitors (per annum)                      | Through well-presented grounds, contributing to maintaining / increasing our 260,000 annual visitor target |

## **5. Creative Ability**

### ***Essential:***

- To engage with visitors delivering spot talks and providing information to guest training standards.
- Creative in finding solutions to maintenance problems through re-using and re-cycling materials in an economic way
- Knowledge of plants to be able to assist in the development of planting schemes

## **6. Contact**

### ***Essential:***

- Daily contact with Grounds Manager and Assistant Grounds Manager
- Volunteers and corporate groups leading events / supervising running of corporate volunteering team days of up to 30 volunteers.
- Regular contact with other departments and visitors

---

## **General Notes**

Whilst this post is based at WWT Slimbridge, some travel may be necessary therefore a current driving licence is essential as is willingness to travel to other WWT Wetland Centres.