



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Thurrock/Barking & Dagenham/Havering Brentwood/South West Essex

This database is separated into volunteering opportunities in the different boroughs within the Land of the Fanns and then separated into either heritage or environmental organisations who welcome volunteers.



To be included in this database, please contact landofthefanns@thameschase.org.uk

Compiled 2021. All information correct at time of publication







Across the Area - Heritage

English Heritage

English Heritage is a charity that manages over 400 historic monuments, buildings and places. These include prehistoric sites, medieval castles, Roman forts and country houses.

Location: across the UK

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/retail/research

Info: https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/support-us/Volunteer/ Volunteers contact: volunteer.enquiries@english-heritage.org.uk

Essex Gardens Trust/The Garden Trust

Essex Gardens Trust is one of the many County Gardens Trusts in England and Wales. Supported by The Gardens Trust as the statutory consultee for registered parks and gardens, together they play a key conservation role in protecting, conserving and spreading knowledge of our designed garden and landscape heritage.

Location: across Essex Heritage & Environmental

Type of volunteering: research/conservation/education/publicity/events Info: https://www.essexgardenstrust.org.uk/ or www.thegardenstrust.org

Volunteers contact: http://www.essexgardenstrust.org.uk/contacts essexgardenstrust@gmail.com or enquiries@thegardenstrust.org

Historic England

The public body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's spectacular historic environment.

Location: Essex & London

Type of volunteering: research, stewarding, caretaking

Info: https://historicengland.org.uk/

Volunteers contact: https://historicengland.org.uk/about/volunteering/

Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA)

Experience archaeology first-hand and volunteer with MOLA. Volunteering with MOLA is a great way to build specialist technical skills and 'soft skills' alike. MOLA experts support volunteers working on a range of projects.

Location: across London and the UK Type of volunteering: research/physical

Info: https://www.mola.org.uk/

Volunteers contact: https://www.mola.org.uk/research-community/volunteering







Across the Area – Environmental

Groundwork

Groundwork is a federation of charities mobilising practical community action on poverty and the environment across the UK. It is passionate about creating a future where every neighbourhood is vibrant and green, every community is strong and able to shape its own destiny and no-one is held back by their background or circumstances.

Location: sites across the country Type of volunteering: physical

Info: www.groundwork.org.uk/join-in/volunteer/

Volunteers contact: https://www.groundwork.org.uk/groundwork-near-me/

The Land Trust

The Land Trust is a charity which owns or manages open spaces restored from derelict land for public benefit. Its vision is "to improve the quality of people's lives by creating sustainable, high quality green spaces that deliver environmental, social and economic benefits".

Location: UK wide – sites in Thurrock, Essex and London

Type of volunteering: physical Info: https://thelandtrust.org.uk/

Volunteers contact: https://thelandtrust.org.uk/opportunity type/volunteering/

enquiries@thelandtrust.org.uk

Thames21

Thames21 is a leading waterways charity dedicated to putting healthy rivers back at the heart of community life. It delivers and inspires tangible and measurable improvements to rivers by working hand-in-hand with communities and stakeholders.

Location: across the Thames

Type of volunteering: physical – litter picking and river restoration

Volunteers contact: www.thames21.org.uk/events or phone: 020 7248 7171

Thames Estuary Partnership

The Thames Estuary Partnership is an independent charity that builds understanding and appreciation of one of the world's most famous rivers. It brings together key stakeholders in the Thames, working in partnership to improve the river both for London's inhabitants and for the ecosystems that it holds. It works with governmental bodies, port and local authorities, riverside developers, NGOs and the wider community.

Location: Central London

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/retail/research

Info: https://www.thamesestuarypartnership.org/volunteering

Volunteers contact: 07564786798 or email: tep@thamesestuarypartnership.org







Forestry England

Forestry England cares for over 1,500 of the country's forests for the benefit and enjoyment of all, for this generation and the next. Shaping landscapes for people, wildlife and timber, it has built over 1,800 miles of walking, running and cycling trails, supplying England's largest amount of sustainably-sourced timber, and conserving the homes of thousands of plants and animals.

Location: Locally sites include: Ingrebourne Hill, Mardyke Woods, Pages Wood, Cely Woods, Bonnetts Wood, Berwick Glades, Folkes Lane, Harold Court Wood, Tylers Wood, and the Thames Chase Broadfield Site. There are also sites across the UK

Type of volunteering: physical

Info: For Thames Chase Broadfield site, please email georgina.ellis@forestryengland.uk or at thameschase@forestryengland.uk For other locations, please go to: www.forestryengland.uk/volunteering

Environment Agency

The Environment Agency works to create better places for people and wildlife, and support sustainable development.

Location: sites across the UK Type of volunteering: physical

Info: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

Volunteers contact: 02030 259628 or email thames.volunteers@environment-agency.gov.uk

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

The RSPB is the UK's largest nature conservation charity, inspiring everyone to give nature a home and secure a healthy environment for wildlife.

Location: Sites across UK

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/varied

Info: https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering-fundraising/volunteer/

Essex Wildlife Trust

Essex Wildlife Trust is the county's leading conservation charity, committed to protecting wildlife and inspiring a lifelong love of nature. It manages nature reserves and discovery parks across the county, providing outstanding outdoor education and preserving places of wonder.

Location: sites across the area

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/research

Info: https://www.essexwt.org.uk/support-us/get-involved/volunteer
Volunteers contact: volunteering@essexwt.org.uk or call 01621 862 940







The Woodland Trust

UK wide tree charity, protecting, planting and promoting woods. Volunteers carry out a huge variety of roles to help plant and protect woods and trees. They spot threatened woods that need our help, spread the word about the value of woods and trees, carry out practical tasks on site and much, much more.

Location: across the UK

Type of volunteering: physical, promotion, research

Info: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/act/volunteer-with-us/

Volunteers contact: www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/

Zoological Society of London

An international conservation charity. Location: London and international

Type of volunteering: physical/research/work on London Rivers

Info: https://www.zsl.org/

Volunteers contact: https://www.zsl.org/conservation/regions/uk-europe/volunteer-for-londons-

rivers







Havering – Heritage

Havering Museum

Havering Museum collects and preserves objects which record the history of the London Borough of Havering, making them accessible to a wide audience through exhibitions, events, activities and education programmes.

Location: Havering

Type of volunteering: Admin/Finance/Collections/Education/Front of House/Digitisation/Trustees

Info: https://www.haveringmuseum.org.uk/

Volunteers contact: https://www.haveringmuseum.org.uk/volunteer/ or email

volunteermanager@haveringmuseum.org.uk

Friends of Upminster Windmill

The Friends of Upminster Windmill manage Upminster Windmill on behalf of the London Borough of Havering.

Location: Upminster, Havering

Type of volunteering:

- · Gardening and ground maintenance
- · General maintenance of the windmill and visitor centre
- Guides for forthcoming open days (technical skills are not required)
- · General assistance (e.g. retail sales) on open days

Info: www.upminsterwindmill.org/aboutus.html
Volunteers contact: chairman@upminsterwindmill.org

Rainham Hall, National Trust

Rainham Hall is a Grade II* listed Georgian house built in 1729, owned by the National Trust and open to the public.

Location: Rainham, Havering

Type of volunteering: physical/retail/research

Info: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/rainham-hall

Volunteers contact: https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/volunteer

Hornchurch Aerodrome Historical Trust

Hornchurch Aerodrome Historical Trust are a registered charity consisting of enthusiastic local amateur historians who are helping to preserve the past of RAF Hornchurch for all future generations to enjoy.

Location: Hornchurch, Havering

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/research/fundraising

Info: https://rafhornchurch.com/

Volunteers contact: https://rafhornchurch.com/contact-us/







Upminster Tithe Barn

The Upminster Tithe Barn houses a collection of artifacts of nostalgic origin. First opened as a museum on 1st May 1976, it is owned by the London Borough of Havering and run in partnership with the Hornchurch and District Historical Society.

The museum holds around 14,500 artifacts of domestic and agricultural use, ranging from Roman times to the present day.

Location: Hall Lane, Upminster

Type of volunteering: research/admin/physical/retail/acting as a guide

Info: http://upminstertithebarn.co.uk/

Volunteers contact: http://upminstertithebarn.co.uk/volunteering/







Havering – Environmental

Friends of Raphael and Lodge Farm Parks

The Friends of Raphael Park & Lodge Farm Park are a non-political, not-for-profit community group made up of local residents working with the council, police and other bodies to help improve, protect and provide a safe, fun place for all to enjoy.

Location: Romford, Havering

Type of volunteering: physical/admin
Info: http://friendsofraphaelpark.org.uk/
Volunteers contact: forlfp@gmail.com

Friends of Rise Park

A park friends' group with the aim to improve Rise Park facilities and engage the local community into the park.

Location: Romford, Havering

Type of volunteering: physical – gardening and maintenance

Info: https://www.facebook.com/friendsofrisepark/ Volunteers contact: friendsofrisepark/ Volunteers contact: friendsofrisepark/

Thames Chase

Thames Chase Conservation Volunteers are a great mixed team that give their time and hard work, spending one or two days per week working on conservation projects for the Thames Chase Trust. They have a broad range of skills and work very well as a team to achieve the best results as well as enjoying themselves doing it.

Location: Upminster, Havering

Type of volunteering: education/clerical/conservation/health and wellbeing/walking

Info: www.thameschase.org.uk/get-involved/forest-centre-volunteers

Tree nursery volunteers meet every Wednesday and once a month on the first Sunday. http://www.thameschase.org.uk/visitor-centres/the-forest-centre/community-tree-nursery

Volunteers contact: 01708 642970 enquiries@thameschase.org.uk

Friends of The Secret Blind-Sensory Garden, Hornchurch

The Friends of The Secret Blind-Sensory Garden work to improve the only outdoor recreational space within the London Borough of Havering for the visually and other sensory impairments as well as those living with dementia and learning difficulties. It is lovingly tended to by dedicated volunteers, who have ensured that it has remained open and safe for visitors.

Location: Harrow Lodge Park, Hornchurch

Type of volunteering: physical

Volunteers contact: shelley.hart@haveringvc.org.uk







Friends of Cottons Park

The Friends of Cottons Park are a group of local residents who care about their local park. It is non-political, not-for-profit community group working with the council, police and other bodies to help improve, protect and provide a safe, fun place for all to enjoy. It arranges various events in the park for the whole family to enjoy.

Location: London Road, Romford Type of volunteering: physical/events

Info: www.facebook.com/FriendsofCottonsparkRomford/

Volunteers contact: sales@romford.kallkwik.co.uk

Friends of Ingrebourne Valley & Hornchurch Country Park

A group formed to promote the responsible use of the Ingrebourne Valley and Hornchurch Country Park for the benefit of the whole community. Its aims are to:

Improve the area's recreational and educational facilities.

Enhance and protect the natural environment of this Site of Special Scientific Interest. Preserve and promote the historical significance of the site and its unique artefacts.

Location: Hornchurch

Type of volunteering: physical

Info: http://www.ingrebournevalleyfriends.org/

Volunteers contact: admin@ingrebournevalleyfriends.org

Friends of Dagnam Park

Friends of Dagnam Park originally came together in 2003 to combat the antisocial behaviour in the park. They still continue this work and have forged good links with the council and the police.

Location: Harold Hill, Havering Type of volunteering: physical

Info: www.friendsofdagnampark.org.uk/contact_and_links/contactus.htm

Volunteers contact: info@friendsofdagnampark.org.uk

Friends of the Earth Havering

The group aims to increase public awareness of the value of Havering's green spaces, and it monitors development plans so it can campaign against destruction of the green belt. The group also campaigns to prevent air pollution, and to protect pollinators and wildlife in the borough.

Location: meetings at Fairkytes, 51 Billet Lane, Hornchurch

Type of volunteering: physical/campaigning

Info: http://hfoe.johnr.uk/ or https://friendsoftheearth.uk/groups/havering

Volunteers contact: http://hfoe.johnr.uk/contact/index.html







Essex Wildlife Trust - local group: Havering

Essex Wildlife Trusts local groups carry out all manner of fundraising activities and events including nature reserve Open Days, as well as recruiting new members, local publicity, work parties, evening talks and magazine deliveries.

Location: Havering

Type of volunteering: physical/fundraising

Info: https://www.essexwt.org.uk/support-us/get-involved/local-groups/havering

Friends of Langtons Estate

The Friends Group volunteers meet on the first Tuesday of the month to raise funds for improvements to the Garden. Newcomers welcome.

Location: Langtons Gardens, Havering

Heritage & Environmental

Type of volunteering: physical/fundraising

Volunteers contact: https://www.facebook.com/LangtonsGardens/

Friends of Parklands

Friends of Parklands organise working parties, with the aim of preserving and enhancing the natural environment.

The working parties meet at 10am, for a couple of hours, on the second Wednesday of every month. All tools will be provided.

Location: Upminster

Type of volunteering: Physical

Info: http://www.friendsofparklands.org.uk/

Volunteers contact: http://www.friendsofparklands.org.uk/contacts.html

Friends of Bedfords Park

The Friends of Bedfords Park are a voluntary group working at Bedfords Park, Havering-atte-Bower, Romford. They undertake gardening and park maintenance.

Location: Havering-atte-Bower, Romford Type of volunteering: physical/admin

Info: https://friendsofbedfordspark.blogspot.com/

Volunteers contact: 01708 704619 or email fobp@hotmail.co.uk







Barking & Dagenham - Heritage

Valence House

Valence House Museum is the only surviving of the five manor houses of Dagenham. The timber-framed museum building, partially surrounded by a moat, is situated in Valence Park. The building has been used as a manor house, a family home, a town hall, the headquarters of the library service and now houses a museum.

Location: Off Becontree Avenue, Dagenham,

Type of volunteering: collections/engagement/research Info: http://valencehousecollections.co.uk/contact/ Volunteers contact: valencehousemuseum@lbbd.gov.uk

Eastbury Manor

Eastbury Manor House is a Grade I listed building. It dates to the Elizabethan period, although the land on which it was built was formerly part of the demesne of Barking Abbey. It is owned by the National Trust but run by Barking and Dagenham Council.

Location: Eastbury Square, Barking

Type of volunteering: currently only volunteering opportunities in the gardens are open

Info: www.eastburymanorhouse.org.uk

Volunteers contact: http://www.eastburymanorhouse.org.uk/Volunteer

Please note: volunteers come under Barking & Dagenham Council, not the National Trust.





Barking & Dagenham - Environmental

Friends of Eastbrookend and The Chase

Making a positive contribution to the management and development of Eastbrookend Country Park and The Chase Local Nature Reserve.

Main objectives of the group are to promote the responsible use of Eastbrookend Country Park and The Chase Local Nature Reserve and enhance the parks for the benefit for the whole community

Location: Dagenham Road, Dagenham Type of volunteering: physical/fundraising

Info: www.lbbd.gov.uk/eastbrookend-discovery-centre

Volunteers contact: 07866 129748

London Borough of Barking & Dagenham - Rangers Service

LBBD Park Rangers Service offer volunteering in parks and green spaces.

Location: Across Barking & Dagenham

Type of volunteering: Tasks range from gardening and looking after vegetable and herb beds at Heritage sites (Valence House Museum and Eastbury Manor House) to tree planting, orchard care and keeping the country parks accessible through cutting back vegetation, maintaining pathways etc as well as encouraging wildlife.

Volunteers contact: rangers@LBBD.gov.uk or call 020 8227 2332.







Thurrock - Heritage

High House Community Group

A group preserving and promoting the history and heritage of this historic site.

Location: High House production Park, Purfleet, Thurrock

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/research Info: https://www.highhousepurfleet.co.uk/

Volunteers contact: https://www.highhousepurfleet.co.uk/contact/

Purfleet Heritage Centre

The Purfleet Heritage & Military Centre is housed within Magazine No.5 of what was once the Royal Magazine for Gunpowder situated on the banks of the River Thames. It houses a large social history and military history collection.

Location: Purfleet, Thurrock

Type of volunteering: museum guides, maintenance, event organisers, tea bar, fund raisers Info: argos44@icloud.com, 07999 521176, or 01708 890874 when the centre is open. Volunteers contact: argos44@icloud.com or 01708 890874, when the centre is open.

Thurrock Local History Society

The aims of the Society are to encourage interest in and to collect and disseminate information on the history and antiquities of the Thurrock area and to take any action as is appropriate to secure the protection of any buildings, monuments and landscapes which in the opinion of the Society are of historical or architectural interest.

Location: Grays, Thurrock

Type of volunteering: research and events

Info: www.thurrock-history.org.uk

Volunteers contact: secretary@thurrock-history.org.uk







Thurrock - Environmental

Little Belhus Country Park Trust

The aim of the Little Belhus Country Park Trust is the creation of a new public park out of a contaminated site, and it works towards the long-term maintenance and management of the site as a country park with the objectives of wildlife conservation and improving the area for local residents.

Location: Little Belhus, Thurrock Type of volunteering: physical

Info: Little Belhus Country Park | Facebook

Volunteers contact: <u>alexhollocks@ruralarisings.co.uk</u>

Essex Wildlife Trust - Chafford Gorges

Chafford Gorges Nature Discovery Park offers 200 acres of green space for numerous wildlife and recreation for the 12,500 people living in Chafford Hundred.

Location: Drake Rd, Chafford Hundred Thurrock Type of volunteering: physical/admin/research

Info: www.essexwt.org.uk/support-us/get-involved/volunteer

Volunteers contact: volunteering@essexwt.org.uk or call 01621 862 940.

Essex Wildlife Trust – Thurrock Thameside Nature Park

Thameside Nature Discovery Park is situated on the Thames Estuary and is fantastic for family days out, bird and ship watching, historical interest and getting away from the hustle and bustle.

Location: Mucking Wharf Road, Mucking, Thurrock Type of volunteering: physical/admin/research

Info: www.essexwt.org.uk/support-us/get-involved/volunteer

Volunteers contact: volunteering@essexwt.org.uk or call 01621 862 940.

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) - Rainham Marshes

Rainham Marshes is an RSPB nature reserve in the east of London, adjacent to the Thames Estuary in Purfleet, Thurrock and the London Borough of Havering. It has maintained much of its Medieval landscape, and is the largest area of wetland on the upper parts of the Thames Estuary.

Location: Rainham Marshes

Type of volunteering: habitat and estate management/visitor engagement/biological surveys/varied

Info: www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering-fundraising/volunteer/

Volunteers contact: Rainham.marshes@rspb.org.uk







Friends of Langdon Hills Country Park

The Friends of Langdon Hills are a group of local people who enjoy the delights of Langdon Hills Country Park. The Friends help with events at the park and support Thurrock council's work by joining in with woodland work, such as coppicing and clearing paths.

Location: Thurrock

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/events

Info: www.thurrock.gov.uk/langdon-hills-country-park/get-involved https://www.facebook.com/friendsoflangdonhillscountry-park/get-involved

Volunteers contact: langdon.hills@btconnect.com or contact telephone: 01268 542066

Orchards Community Forum/Friends of Elm Road Green Open Space (FERGOS)

Orchards Community Forum is a community group providing a voice for people who live and work in the Orchards Forum area (from Bridge Road to Whitehall Lane in Grays). The Forum also runs The Friends of Elm Road Green Open Space (FERGOS) which encourages the community to use and enjoy the park, by bringing people together, promoting physical and mental wellbeing, and supporting the environment.

Location: Grays, Thurrock

Type of volunteering: litter picking; walk leading; allotment volunteers; organising/helping at

community events; committee members
Info: Orchards Community Forum | Facebook

Volunteers contact: info@orchardscf.org.uk or secretary@orchardscf.org.uk

Friends of Hardie Park

Hardie Park is a community led family park and open green space. Local residents took ownership after a period of neglect in order to develop and enhance the area for the benefit of the local community.

Friends of Hardie Park are a Registered Charity and Community Interest Company and a not-for-profit organisation.

Location: Stanford le Hope, Thurrock
Type of volunteering: physical/admin/cafe

Info: https://www.friendsofhardiepark.co.uk/volunteer/ Volunteers contact: info@friendsofhardiepark.co.uk/volunteer/







Brentwood – Heritage

Brentwood Museum Society

The Brentwood Museum Society was founded in 1977. It acquired its present building in 1985 and was first regularly open to the public in 1989. In 1993 the Museum was granted formal registration with the Museum and Galleries Commission, one of just a handful of Essex Museums to gain such recognition, and all the more remarkable since it is staffed entirely by volunteers. The Museum was granted full accreditation by Arts Council England in 2008.

Location: Lorne Road, Warley, Brentwood

Type of volunteering: admin/research/visitor assistance

Info: http://51.105.52.85/Brentwood_Museum/Welcome.html

Volunteers contact: 01277 218854 or info@brentwoodmuseum.org.uk







Across South West Essex - Environmental

Buglife

Buglife is the only organisation in Europe devoted to the conservation of all invertebrates. It actively works to save Britain's rarest little animals, everything from bees to beetles, worms to woodlice and jumping spiders to jellyfish.

Location: Canvey and Vange and across the UK Type of volunteering: physical/admin/research

Info: www.buglife.org.uk/jobs/

Volunteers contact: info@buglife.org.uk

Explore Essex – Essex County Council

Many of our parks and places are looking for people like you. From specific roles such as helping in our visitor centres to growing fruit, vegetables and flowers, woodwork and DIY or working with our beekeepers, to more general maintenance we have a wide variety of volunteering roles to suit you.

Location: sites across Essex

Type of volunteering: physical/admin/retail/ Info: www.explore-essex.com/support-us

Volunteers contact: volunteers.exploreessex@essex.gov.uk

Natural England

The government's adviser for the natural environment in England. Natural England helps to protect and restore our natural world.

Location: across the UK

Type of volunteering: physical/research

Info: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england/about
Volunteers contact: volunteer.enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk



