YOUTH LEADERSHIP GROUP INFORMATION PACK

www.heartwoodsfc.com
www.actionforconservation.org
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"It feels magical to come up with plans together and watch them blossom"

**ABOUT THE HEARTWOOD PROJECT**

Based at beautiful High Leas Farm just outside Matlock, the Heartwood Project is a new, nature restoration and regenerative farming initiative collaborating on the Intergenerational Climate Action Project with Action for Conservation.

Over the next three years we will be bringing young people, conservation experts, farmers and ecologists together to explore the farm’s past and present, create an ambitious shared vision for the future, and get stuck into making the farm a more diverse and abundant place, by restoring nature, growing good food and building community.

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**THE OPPORTUNITY**

We are looking for 15 young people to join our Youth Leadership Group (YLG). You should be:

- From/living in the Derbyshire area, or within one hour of the project site in Matlock.
- Aged 13-16
- Passionate and motivated to take action for our planet and local communities

**YLG members commit to:**

- 4 residential visits per year
- Participation in local community action days between visits
- Interested in protecting nature, tackling climate change and working as a team with other young people and adults
- Excited to participate in both classroom-style workshops (e.g. project planning) and on-the-land nature restoration and education work (e.g. tree planting and habitat creation)
- Keen to complete research and planning tasks in between visits to the site
VISITING HEARTWOOD

Location and Address
Activities take place both on-site and throughout the surrounding area.
The address is:
High Leas Farm,
Matlock,
Derbyshire,
DE4 5JX

Travel information
Typically local young people are dropped off and collected at the site by a parent/carer. We will also provide transport from Manchester, where you will travel with the local AFC team.
If you need transport support please let us know.

Accommodation
Any residential visits will take place on site. Young people stay overnight in shared bedrooms or dormitories. AFC staff members stay in the same accommodation building with young people and supervise them at all times. If you have any questions about accommodation please let us know.

Meals
During residential visits, all meals are provided. We cook meals together or use an outside caterer. All meals are vegetarian. We cater to dietary requirements and allergies (e.g. lactose intolerant, vegan, coeliac etc).

Costs
Participating in the project is free. All accommodation, food, activities and necessary travel are included.

Supervision, Safeguarding & Safety
Safety and security are extremely important to us. All staff and volunteers receive the appropriate training and background checks, as outlined in AFC’s Child Safeguarding Policy. Young people will be supervised and all venues and activities are rigorously assessed to ensure the highest safety standards.

AFC policies available on request:
- Child Safeguarding
- Child E-Safety
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Visits
- Transport
- Whistleblowing
- Data Protection
ACTIVITIES

Agendas for visits are shared with young people and parents/carers prior to the visit. Activities are co-organised and co-led by the YLG and consist of a mixture of:

- Hands-on conservation action (e.g. tree planting)
- Learning on the land (e.g. foraging)
- Ecological skills and research work (e.g. insect/mammal/plant surveys)
- Nature connection games
- Planning and strategy sessions
- Plus time to relax and socialise

APPLY ONLINE

To apply complete the online application form, you’ll need to provide some details about yourself, tell us what motivated you to apply and your connection to your local community.

APPLY ONLINE HERE

Or for more information on the partners visit:
www.actionforconservation.org
www.heartwoodsf.com

If you have any further questions, please email: mentor@actionforconservation.org

TIMELINE

Deadline for applications:
26th August 2024

Applicants will be notified by:
2nd September 2024

First site visit:
25th - 27th October 2024

ABOUT THE PROJECT PARTNERS

Heartwood was formed to rediscover the relationship between people and land, and harness the positive impacts of working in harmony with each other. They do this by inviting everyone to participate in restoring the landscape. Learning new ways to farm, forage, cook, craft, dance, walk, write, explore or just be alongside nature.

Action for Conservation is a youth environmental charity that seeks to bring the wonder of nature into the lives of young people across the UK. We run schools programmes, summer camps and give young people the opportunity to design, develop and deliver nature restoration actions themselves at our network of land-based projects.

The two organisations have joined together to merge expertise, looking at how we connect to the landscape and how we can share intergenerational learning to benefit the future of the site and the communities it serves.