



KNOWSLEY HALL

RECRUITMENT PACK

ESTATE WORKER/  
FORESTER

MARCH 2025



## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in this role and working at The Knowsley Estate, we hope that this recruitment pack provides you with the information that you need to pursue your application. Please ensure that you read all parts of this document in order to complete your application as requested and tailored to the role and person specification.

This pack contains the following:

- About the Knowsley Estate
- Benefits of Working at The Knowsley Estate
- Shortlisting
- The Role
- The Person
- How to Apply



## ABOUT THE KNOWSLEY ESTATE

Owned by The Earl and Countess of Derby, The Knowsley Estate is comprised of two operating entities. Firstly, Stanley Enterprise, the leisure arm of the business, focussing on outstanding quality of customer service and guest experience and home to two great Merseyside icons – Knowsley Hall (lovingly restored from Police offices over the last 25 years by The Earl and Countess of Derby) and Knowsley Safari (Founded in 1971 by 18<sup>th</sup> Earl, uncle of the current owner). The gardens created from scratch by Lady Derby and the Knowsley Parks & Gardens team. Stanley Enterprise is a legal partnership between Lord Derby & their older son Edward Stanley. Secondly, The Stanley Estate and Stud Company which operates the landed side of the business including farmland, residential properties and Stanley Grange Business Village. Further afield in Newmarket near Cambridge, is Stanley House Stud and which is where the family's 'Mare in a Million' Ouija Board lived.

The walled Park covers over 2500 acres and has been in the continual ownership of the Stanley Family since 1385 and from that time the history of the family has been closely intertwined with the history of the country. If you delve into the family's history, you'll discover that Lord Stanley was created the 1st Earl on the battlefield of Bosworth by Henry VII, the 14th Earl was Prime Minister three times, the 15th Earl was Foreign Secretary and the 17th Earl was Secretary of State for War during the First World War the ambassador to Paris. William Shakespeare and Edward Lear both worked and wrote at Knowsley.

The beautiful park was landscaped with the advice of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown in the 1770's. The park was extended in the nineteenth century and is enclosed by a stone wall 9 ½ miles long. At times in its long history, the park has contained a racecourse and (reputedly) a gold-mine.

At The Knowsley Estate, we know that ultimately, it is our staff's commitment and hard work that will drive us forward. It is our vision to value and invest in our people to inspire them to channel their pride and passion in their work towards our goals. We are committed to the personal development of our staff where aspirations can be met and opportunities are available.



## B E N E F I T S

- 33 days' annual leave (inclusive of bank holidays), increasing with service
- Access to a generous pension scheme
- Complimentary tickets to Knowsley Safari
- Free entry to affiliated zoos and collections through BIAZA
- Discounts on a range of products and services offered by the Estate
- Staff Events such as the Christmas Tea Party
- Health Cash Plan to cover costs such dental and optical amongst others
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Online discount scheme
- Thrive wellbeing app, full of tips and techniques to help you monitor and improve your health.
- Commitment to your personal development
- Cycle to Work scheme
- Celebration of Service awards
- Free car parking

# THE ROLE

## J O B   T I T L E

Estate Worker/ Forester

## C O N T R A C T   T Y P E

Permanent

## W O R K I N G   H O U R S

Your normal working hours are to be worked 5 out of 7 days, averaging 37.5 hours per week as well as any other hours that are reasonably required for the fulfilment of your duties. You may be expected to work bank holidays and weekends however, this may vary and it may be necessary for you to work outside of these hours.

## R E P O R T   T O

Head of Parks & Gardens

## S A L A R Y

£25,000 gross per annum

The following job description has been designed to give a clear definition of the role, but it is hoped that the employee will seek to develop the role to the best of their ability and that the role can be developed to make full use of their potential.

### **Purpose of the Role**

To maintain and enhance Knowsley Parks gardens and landscapes, as an Estate Worker/ Forester in this friendly and supportive work environment you will play a vital role in the care of our outdoor spaces.

### **Main Duties & Responsibilities**

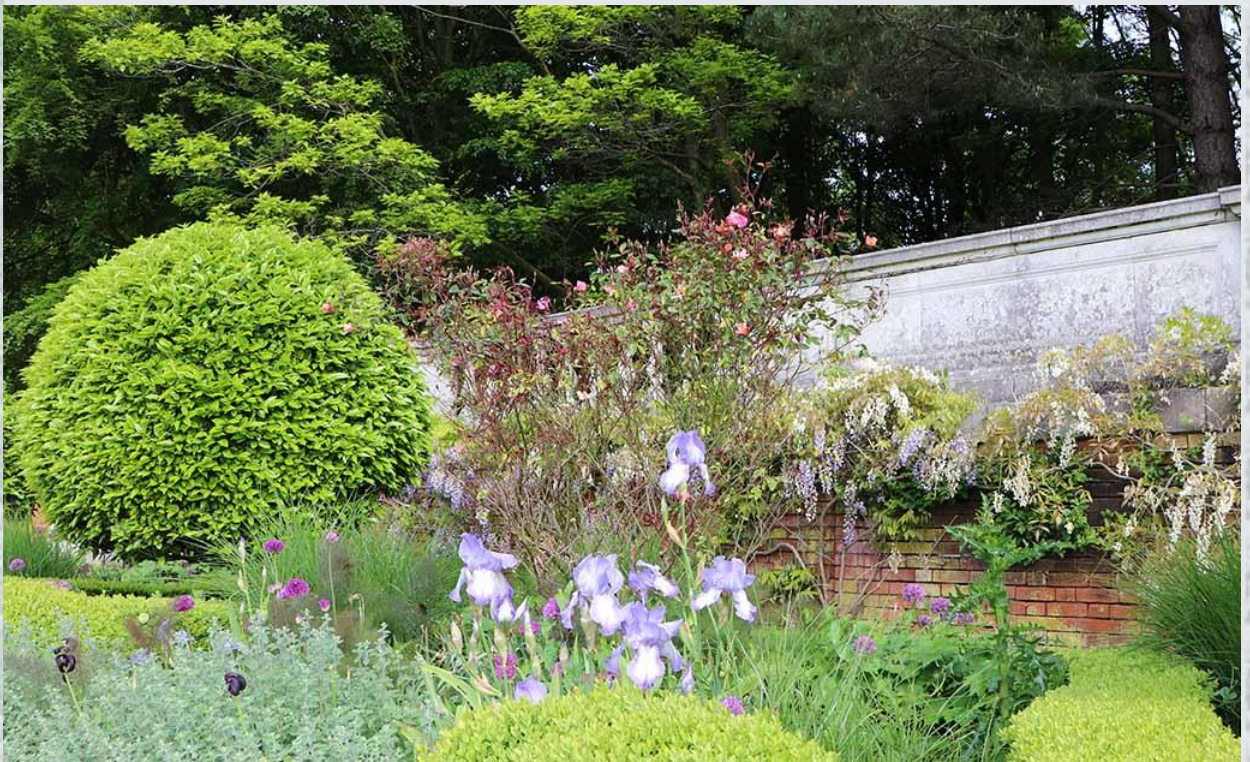
- Assist with all aspects of woodland and tree care including the removal of storm damaged trees utilising appropriate methods
- Assist with winter road gritting and snow clearance
- Prune and cut formal garden hedges and roadside hedgerows
- Control invasive species including Knotweed, Ragwort and Himalayan Balsam using appropriate techniques
- Maintain and enhance the health and aesthetics of the grounds through regular mowing and weeding using a variety of lawncare machinery
- Plant, prune and care for trees and shrubs to ensure their growth and vitality
- Perform regular inspections of the parkland to identify issues, such as pests or disease and take necessary actions to address them

- Operate and maintain grounds equipment safely and efficiently
- Assist with forest operations on the Knowsley Estate working closely with contractors to ensure the estate woodland policy is upheld
- Carry out regular site inspection clearing litter, leaves and detritus
- Assist with new woodland creations, planting, guarding, fencing and weeding
- Replace and maintain Knowsley Estate fencing
- Assist to maintain the Estate's water courses and outlets
- Undertake weed control throughout the estate using chemical and non-chemical techniques
- Assist with grounds and tree works projects at Knowsley Safari Park
- Carry out regular checks and basic maintenance on Parks and gardens vehicles and machinery
- Use a variety of tractor mounted PTO driven machinery including flail mowers and leaf blowers
- Assist with log production using wood processor for the benefits of the Hall and Private house
- Carry out all tasks following Health and safety guidelines implementing controls and recording findings

# THE PERSON

**Our ideal candidate will have the following skills, qualifications, and characteristics:**

- Full Driving license
- Physically fit and willing to work in all weather conditions
- Chainsaw Qualification, crosscutting and maintenance
- Recognised Horticulture, Forestry or Arboriculture qualification level 2 or above
- Experience using ride on mowers, Tractors and ATVs
- Experience using petrol and electric hand tools
- PA1 and PA6 spraying
- Telehandler experience desirable
- Ability to work independently and part of a team
- Possess excellent communication skills and a positive attitude
- First Aid Training



# HOW TO APPLY

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Please send your CV to [recruitment@knowsley.com](mailto:recruitment@knowsley.com).

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CLOSING DATE: Sunday 30 March 2025

INTERVIEW DATE: w/c 07 April 2025

START DATE: ASAP

