

Countryside officer Also called: Conservation officer

Countryside officers manage, protect and improve the rural environment.

Qualifications and grades

If you want to study music:

Level 2 (e.g. GCSEs)

GCSEs -A minimum of Grade 4 in English and Maths. Universities will particularly favour applicants with a strong grade in Biology.

Level 3 (e.g. A-Levels, BTECs)

3 A-Levels ranging between AAA-BBB Two subjects from the sciences and related fields. These can include: Biology, Human Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology.

[You could get into this job through an environmental conservation apprenticeship.](#)

Skills You'll need:

- effective communication and 'people' skills
- negotiating skills
- planning and organisational skills
- IT and record-keeping skills

Watch this video from a student studying

Horticulture and botany

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/subjects/feature/d/horticulture-and-botany>



Working hours, patterns and environment

You'll usually work around 37 hours a week.

You might work in the evening, at weekends and on public holidays.

You'll be based in an office, but spend a lot of time outdoors.

The role can be physically demanding and you'll work in all weather conditions.

These university subjects are related to this career:

[Agriculture](#)

[Horticulture and Botany](#)

[Leisure and Tourism](#)

What you'll do:

You'll work on environmental improvements and conservation management, advising landowners on how to manage their land

- conducting surveys, carrying out research and analysing data
- writing reports and delivering presentations
- preparing funding applications
- dealing with complaints
- organising the upkeep of country parks and woodlands
- making sure footpaths are clearly marked and litter bins and car parks are provided
- advising on planning applications
- giving talks to local groups
- producing resources like leaflets and information boards
- supporting local environmental events, activities and projects

East Midlands growth: +14.3% from 2014 to 2024

Overall UK median earnings: £22,615