

# Brecon Beacons National Park Upland Volunteers



## Principles of Upland Pathwork

The Walking With Offa project has provided funding for the BBNPA to develop the Upland Volunteer scheme in the Black Mountains and if successful the scheme may be extended to cover the entire National Park area.

### Role Profile for Black Mountains Upland Volunteers

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**Accountable to:** Access Officer

**Location:** Black Mountains

**Base:** Throughout Black Mountains (Maps to be provided for tool stores)

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### PURPOSE OF ROLE

To monitor and maintain the condition of specified paths and to help people enjoy and understand their visit to the area

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### KEY ELEMENTS

1. To carry out routine maintenance work on specific paths, to include:
  - a. Cleaning out drainage features
  - b. Maintaining path surfaces by, for example, clearing loose stones from pitching
2. To occasionally participate in work parties to undertake larger practical Tasks to include assisting contractors with specific tasks such as airlifting materials to site, for example.

3. To monitor upland path condition and previous repair work and to submit report forms identifying areas of concern (including fixed point photography on specific routes).
  4. To assist with landscaping following project work.
  5. To promote the work of the Brecon Beacons National Park upland path volunteer group by talking to the public and providing information on an informal basis.
  6. To maintain good working relationships with landowners, tenants, farmers, neighbours, other voluntary organisations, local communities and local authorities.
  7. To participate in training sessions and meetings with other volunteers in order to increase knowledge of upland path management and the work of the BBNPA.
  8. To adhere to the Brecon Beacons National Park *Health and Safety Policy* at all times.
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## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

### **Knowledge:**

*Essential:* An interest in upland path repair work

Health and safety awareness

*Desirable:* Previous knowledge of the area

### **Skills:**

*Desirable:* Map reading and navigation (training is available)

Physical fitness

Competence in use of hand tools

### **Experience:**

*Essential:* Upland walking

*Desirable:* Working outdoors

Working with the general public

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## **TRAINING (provided)**

**Induction / Welcome** (Compulsory)

**Practical works** (Compulsory)

**First Aid** (Needs assessed)

**Navigation / Mountain Awareness** (Needs assessed)

**Dealing with the public** (if desired)

**Introduction to upland ecology** (if desired)

**Introduction to Access legislation** (if desired)

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## **OTHER**

1. Each volunteer should be aiming to give a minimum of at least ten days a year to the Brecon Beacons volunteer service, but a greater involvement would be most welcome.
2. Each volunteer will first be invited to an introductory meeting to discuss the role. They will then be given a full volunteer induction which will include training. Following successful completion the volunteer will be invited to undertake the role.
3. Initially volunteers will be working as part of a group. Volunteers must be accompanied by another volunteer or agreed person at all times.
4. All volunteers will be required to comply with BBNPA's Health and Safety risk management system.
5. Volunteers will be asked for their permission to share their contact information for volunteering co-ordination purposes only.

**Please note that this volunteer role is a gift relationship; all these arrangements are binding in honour only and not intended to be legally binding**