

Homestead Park

Volunteer Gardening



A guide to who we are, what we do,
and how you can help.

About the Park

The Homestead Park is a private garden owned and managed by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Originally they formed part of the grounds of Homestead House on Water End – the home of social reformer Benjamin Seebohm Rowntree, son of Joseph Rowntree.

In 1904 he made the fields behind his house available to children attending York Elementary Schools for outdoor activities. These have been added to over the years and now there is a play park, extensive lawns and flower beds, wildflower meadow and woodland areas, a café, a plant shop, and seasonal bedding displays.

When are there volunteer gardening tasks?

Usually on Wednesdays, but this can be flexible.



How does the volunteer gardener fit in?

We want to provide a great experience for the visitors to Homestead Park. The presentation of the park is key to providing this experience as well as having a point of contact for general queries. The volunteer gardener role supports the day to day activity, the ongoing seasonal maintenance of our green spaces, as well as renovation and development projects as we look to refresh our landscaped areas.

What tasks are involved?

- Gardening duties required to keep the Homestead Park to a high horticultural standard as directed by the Senior Gardener.
- Keeping the park free of litter by litter picking and emptying bins.
- Watering of plants in the glasshouses and plant sales areas.
- Assisting visitors with general queries.



This role will suit you if you ...

- Are outgoing and friendly
- Enjoy learning new gardening skills
- Are keen to share your knowledge, passion and enthusiasm with our visitors.

By getting involved you could...

Meet new people, get new skills, and help to provide a high quality and friendly service that will contribute to the smooth running of the Park, so that every visitor may have an enjoyable and memorable visit.

This sounds like something I'd like to be involved with, what do I need to do next?

Get in touch with us with some details about how often you can join us, why you'd like to help out, and some contact details and we'll have a chat.

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