



THE FRIENDS OF Rowntree Park

Volunteer Goose Management Role Description

About the role	Our team of volunteer goose herders help to keep Rowntree Park free of goose poo by encouraging geese out of the park and onto the nearby riverside. Volunteers use handheld agricultural lasers to encourage the geese to fly out of the park boundaries. This is a humane technique that does not harm the geese. Goose herding can easily be combined with another volunteering role, such as litter picking or filling bird feeders.
When do we need volunteers?	Goose herding happens at dawn or dusk, around the times that the park is opening or closing (this varies depending on the time of year). We aim to have goose herders in the park twice a day.
Who are we looking for?	Most of our goose herders live or work close to the park so that they can make popping in part of their weekly routine (although we welcome anyone who's keen). You'll need a reasonable level of physical fitness: sometimes the geese move fast! This role can involve being in the park alone, so we ask volunteers to work in pairs and carry a phone and a torch.
What is the commitment?	Ideally we are looking for volunteers who can make a regular commitment of one morning or evening a week.
What will I get from the role?	Goose herding is a quick way of making a big difference: if you've got limited time this is a great way of helping to keep the park pleasant and welcoming. Our goose herders get to see the park at some of the loveliest times of day, and get all the physical and mental wellbeing benefits of volunteering outside. You'll also be certified in the safe use of agricultural lasers!
What training do I need?	All volunteers need to attend a short induction session before they start their role. Once you have completed the session, you will be covered by City of York Council insurance while volunteering. Goose herders also need to do an online course on the safe use of lasers, which needs to be renewed annually.
References and DBS	We do not ask for references or a DBS check for this role.
How do I sign up?	To get involved, please fill in our volunteer registration form . If you've got any questions, email volunteer@rowntreepark.org.uk .