

Forest and Conservation Workers

SOC: 45-4011 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$43,680

Median Salary

10,800

Employment

-5.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: High school diploma

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Medium Risk - 42.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

■ Work-Life Balance

7.8/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	9.0/10	Investigative	7.0/10
Artistic	3.8/10	Social	5.6/10
Enterprising	5.6/10	Conventional	6.2/10

■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Decision- making skills, Detail oriented, Listening skills, Physical stamina

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Forest and Conservation Workers manage and protect **forests, natural resources, and conservation areas**. They plant trees, maintain trails, monitor wildlife, and support environmental preservation efforts. Their work is critical in natural resource management, forestry, and environmental conservation.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy outdoor work, environmental stewardship, and physical activity.

What Do Forest and Conservation Workers Do?

These professionals perform hands-on tasks to maintain forests, conserve natural habitats, and support land management programs.

Common responsibilities include:

- Planting, cultivating, and harvesting trees and vegetation
- Maintaining trails, roads, and firebreaks
- Monitoring wildlife, habitats, and natural resources
- Assisting in wildfire prevention and control
- Operating and maintaining forestry tools and equipment
- Enforcing conservation regulations and guidelines
- Collecting data and reporting on forest conditions

Key Areas of Forest and Conservation Work

Workers may focus on specific conservation tasks or natural resource management areas:

- Tree Planting and Forestry Maintenance: Reforestation and vegetation management
- Wildlife and Habitat Monitoring: Observing animal populations and ecosystem health
- Trail and Land Management: Maintaining access, safety, and erosion control
- Fire Prevention and Safety: Clearing brush and creating firebreaks
- Environmental Compliance and Reporting: Ensuring adherence to conservation policies

Skills and Abilities Needed

Forest and conservation workers combine physical ability, environmental knowledge, and technical skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires minimal formal education and on-the-job training:

- High School Diploma or GED (minimum): Basic math, reading, and communication skills
- On-the-Job Training: Learning forestry, conservation, and environmental tasks
- Vocational Courses (optional): Forestry, natural resource management, or environmental science
- Internships or Field Experience: Gaining practical experience in conservation projects
- Continuous Learning: Staying updated on conservation techniques, environmental regulations, and safety practices

Where Do Forest and Conservation Workers Work?

They are employed in organizations that manage forests, parks, and natural resources:

- National and State Forests
- Parks and Recreation Departments
- Conservation and Environmental Agencies
- Forestry and Timber Companies

- Nonprofit Environmental Organizations

Work environments include forests, parks, conservation areas, and outdoor field locations.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires physical stamina, attention to detail, and the ability to work in outdoor and sometimes challenging conditions. Workers must follow safety guidelines and adapt to weather or environmental changes.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy working outdoors and in natural environments
- Are physically active and capable of manual labor
- Have interest in conservation, forestry, and wildlife
- Can work as part of a team
- Want a career contributing to environmental stewardship and natural resource management

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in environmental science, forestry, or natural resource management
- Volunteer or work in conservation projects, parks, or forestry programs
- Develop physical stamina and skills in land management or trail maintenance
- Learn about wildlife, ecosystems, and environmental regulations
- Explore internships or vocational training in forestry and conservation

Forest and conservation workers support the protection and management of natural resources, maintaining forests, habitats, and ecosystems for environmental sustainability and public benefit.