



BUNDESVERBAND NATURWACHT E. V.

Germany's rangers



Nationale
Naturlandschaften



Germany's rangers

Rangers are employees of reserve administrations, foundations, biological stations, administrative districts or communities, however they are also working as freelancers.

Rangers are kind of a trademark – they are the first contact person on site, they inform and protect simultaneously.

Rangers work mainly in national natural landscapes that means they work in national parks, biosphere reserves and nature parks.

This is not only the case in Germany, but also all over the world. Without professional rangers our natural heritage cannot be permanently conserved.

Rangers have to ensure high standards of quality – they mostly have “green” professions and they are awarded with the nationally recognized certificate “Certified Nature- and Landscape Manager”.

Ranger at environmental education



Bachelor's degrees such as the course of study 'Landscape use and nature conservation' (BSc) with the area of specialisation 'management of conservation areas' at the University of Applied Sciences for Sustainable Development in Eberswalde (HNEE) offer a qualified career entry as well. Learn more about professionals who work every single day to ensure that our natural heritage can be conserved.

The Tasks of the rangers

Rangers understand themselves as mediators between humans and nature. They are familiar with their protected area and provide others access to habitats, nature and environment in a unique way.

Nature conservation does not work without the help of the local population. The aim is to convince as many people as possible to participate in environmental protection.

Rangers guide through their conservation area and provide face-to-face nature experiences. They inform land users about funding opportunities and give them advice on landscape conservation.

They are important partners of regional educational actors and enable all ages to experience nature in a unique way; thus promoting the understanding of nature and a sustainable behaviour to protect nature.

Rangers play an important role in environmental education. As partners of educational institutions, they are encouraging children and teenagers to learn about the idea of conservation and a new way of natural understanding.

They support both, the Junior Ranger and also the Volunteers in Parks Programme and work closely together with local volunteers.

Pictures from top down:

Giving information to the visitors

A ranger mapping flora

Training of junior rangers





Rangers conserve the integrity of habitats and the biological diversity.

The main focus of their work is on active involvement in planning, execution and checking of wildlife- and biotope conservation actions.

Registration of species and monitoring modifications in nature and landscape becomes more and more important.

Rangers play an important role to help preserve the European natural heritage, as they are employed by conservation authorities in EU Bird Protection and FFH areas.

And last but not least rangers are in charge of enforcing nature conservation law.



The main focus for this is on clarification and information.

In supporting visitor management centers and offering guided observational tours with low impact on nature, rangers are minimizing conflicts.

In rare cases, it is necessary to take concrete measures and exercise public authority, however only as the last resort.



Pictures from top down:

Co-operation with volunteers

Ranger at fish otter monitoring

Information stands at events

Ranger international

Rangers work worldwide in nature reserves.

National ranger organizations exist in about 50 countries.

As a member of IRF (International Ranger Federation), the German Ranger Association is part of this worldwide community as well.

The ERF (European Ranger Federation) is a part of the IRF and links the European ranger associations.

The IRF aims are, among other things:

- *Encouraging professional standards worldwide and enhancing the communication between national ranger organizations.*
- *Holding of a triannual International Ranger Congress.*
- *Connecting activities for building solidarity among each other.*

On July 31st the World Ranger Day takes place.

On that date it is intended to call attention to the special situation some rangers are confronted with during their work for human beings and nature.

Especially in regions like Africa and Asia many rangers die in fights with poachers every year. A fund (the Thin Green Line Foundation) supports the families of the killed rangers.

*www.Bundesverband-Naturwacht.de · www.internationalrangers.org
de-de.facebook.com/EuropeanRangerFederation*



The Bundesverband Naturwacht e.V. (German Ranger Association)



- Links the nationwide working colleagues and provides professional's exchange, e.g. on annual congresses
- deals with public relations, informs about fields of work and the opportunities for education and training and publishes an association magazine
- Supports youth work in the field of nature conservation
- Helps developing fundamental know-how for an encompassing nature conservation work

- Speaks up for equal educational standards of rangers throughout Europe and supports rangers in other countries



Promoting and Participating – Become a member of the German Ranger Association!

A powerful association is a benefit for all members and it is easier to overcome difficulties together.

A connecting structure is of significant importance as the rangers are distributed throughout Germany. This structure ensures that every voice can be heard and builds team spirit.

If your profession is concerned with nature protection, you are invited to become a full member of the German Ranger Association.

As a sponsoring member you can support the work of the rangers.

With supporting the German Ranger Association, you can ensure the professional care for our conservation areas.

Membership applications can be found online under

www.Bundesverband-Naturwacht.de



A photograph of two rangers in a forest. One is a man wearing a hat and a jacket, pointing towards the left. The other is a woman wearing a cap and glasses, looking towards the man. They are standing on a rocky path. The background is a dense forest with many trees and branches.

On our website

www.bundesverband-naturwacht.de

You can find up-to-date information about:

- Ranger activity in Germany and worldwide
- Training and career entries
- Junior ranger and Volunteers in Parks
- national and international projects
- Membership in our association scale reserves in Germany

*“To educate people does not mean to fill a container,
but to kindle a fire.”*

Aristophanes

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