

SO, WHILST WELL BEHAVED DOGS ARE
WELCOME ON THE FOREST, ALWAYS REMEMBER

THE 4 'Cs'

CONTROL

Always ensure your dog is in sight and comes back when called. If you are not totally confident of your dog's recall, use a lead.

CARE FOR FARM ANIMALS AND WILDLIFE

Never let your dog approach or chase livestock or wildlife.

CONSIDER OTHERS

Never let your pet approach other people, dogs or horses uninvited.

CLEAN UP

Always remove your dog waste from pathways.

Under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 it is a criminal offence for a person to be in charge of a dog dangerously out of control in a public place. Penalties include a fine of up to £20,000 or, in cases resulting in injury, up to 5 years in prison.

It is an offence under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953 to allow a dog to attack or chase livestock. If a dog is on enclosed land where there are sheep, it must be kept on a lead or otherwise under close control. Livestock managers are entitled to shoot any dog found attacking grazing animals.

PLEASE... prevent this from happening



www.ashdownforest.org

If you are unlucky enough to experience a dangerous or threatening dog, or if you lose your dog or find one loose, then please contact us at the Forest Centre or, in an emergency, contact the police.

Contact us:

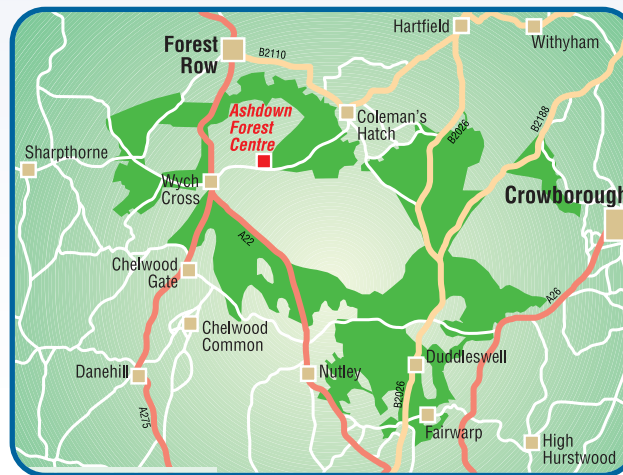
Tel: 01342 823583

Email: office@ashdownforest.org

Address: Conservators of Ashdown Forest,
The Ashdown Forest Centre, Wych Cross,
Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5JP

Web: www.ashdownforest.org

Local Police: 101 – in an emergency dial 999



A Board of Conservators manages
Ashdown Forest as a quiet, natural place for
you to enjoy and also as a refuge for wildlife.



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All details are believed correct at time of production but we cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.



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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DOG WALKERS



ASHDOWN FOREST INFORMATION SERIES

Well behaved dogs ARE welcome on the Forest.
We ask however, that certain guidelines are followed.



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DOG WALKERS

Let's be clear: well-behaved dogs ARE welcome on the Forest. The Forest however, is a very special place, internationally important for the wildlife it supports and loved by a great many people. In order for our visitors to co-exist with each other and with the plants and animals that make the Forest special, we ask that certain guidelines be followed.

DOGS AND WILDLIFE

Ashdown Forest is designated as a Special Protection Area, a European-level designation recognising the important populations of rare birds found here. Many of these, such as the Nightjar, are ground-nesting and as such are particularly prone to disturbance by dogs. Such disturbance can lead to the loss of eggs or nestlings.

DOGS AND HORSES

Horses can easily be startled by dogs, causing them to rear or bolt. Being thrown from a horse can result in serious injury to the rider, and a panicked horse can cause harm to both dogs and dog-owners. Horse riding is only allowed on designated routes and riders should only be at walking pace when passing anyone but, even so, please keep your dog on a lead or under close control if horses are around.

DOGS AND LIVESTOCK

Grazing by animals is central to the management of the Forest; without it, the rolling vistas of heather would be lost to scrub. In order to prevent this, it is necessary for livestock to be allowed

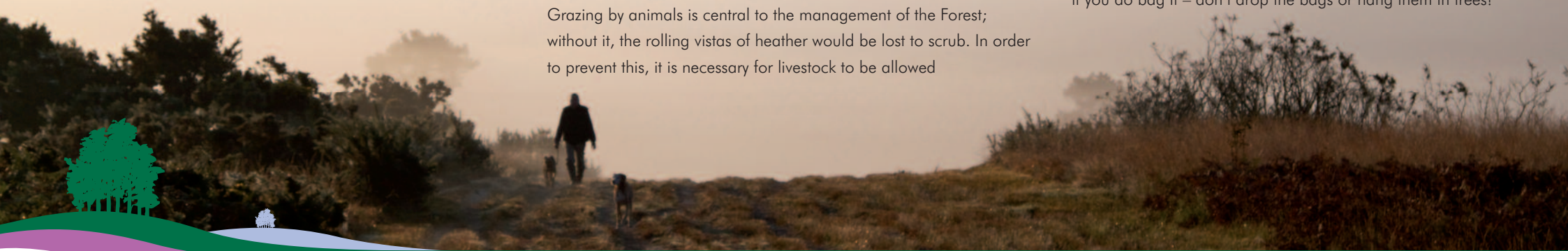
free-roaming access to **certain** parts of the Forest. Even normally well-behaved dogs can become excitable in the presence of farm animals, resulting in serious injury to livestock, dogs or both. Remember that you can check with the Forest Centre to find out where the grazing areas are.

DOGS AND PEOPLE

Please bear in mind that not all our visitors are dog-lovers. In particular, the very young and the elderly can become frightened by the actions of strange dogs, however well intentioned. Dogs themselves vary in their attitude to other dogs and not all encounters between pets will be friendly.

Domestic dogs are now by far the most abundant carnivores on the Forest, and, as well as being hazardous to humans, their nitrogen-rich waste can have a significantly detrimental effect on the soils that make Ashdown Forest special.

So, pick it or flick it! Always bag and take home your dog's waste or at the very least flick it off pathways. **And please,** if you do bag it – don't drop the bags or hang them in trees!



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