

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 pick up your dog's waste.
Bin it or take it home.

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.



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: conservators@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.



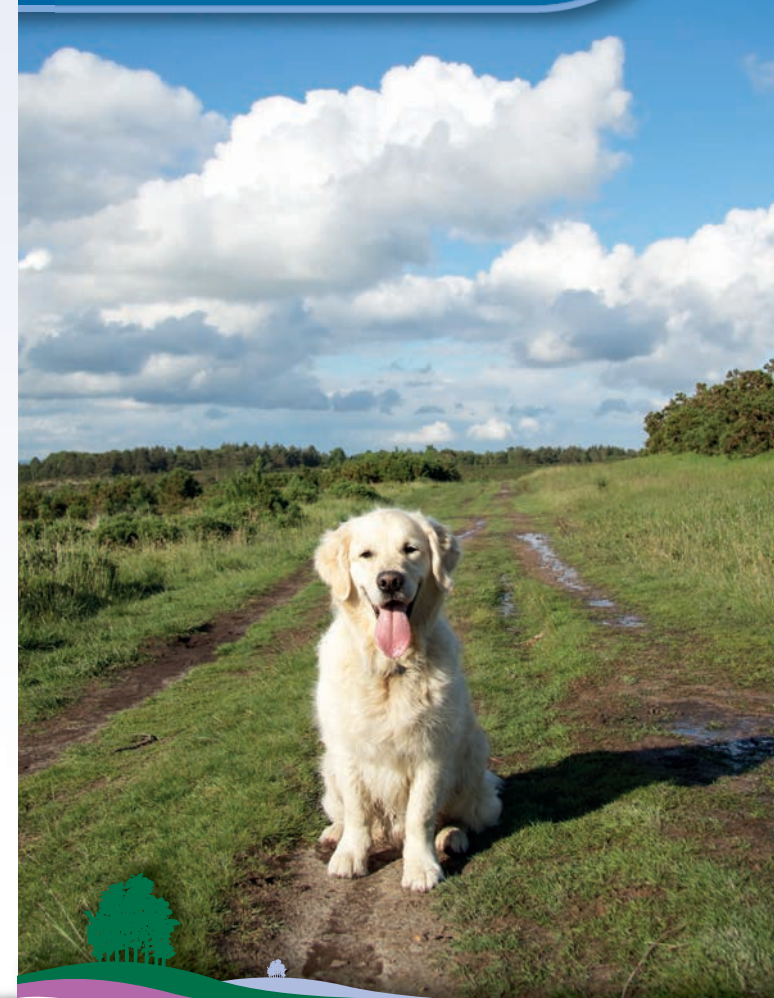
Production co-ordination: Paul Cooper: forest.marketing@btinternet.com
Design and print production: Matt Marriott: m.marriott@btconnect.com
Cartography: Dave Brooker: dave@mappingideas.co.uk
Photography: Dave Brooker, Julie Bolton

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



www.ashdownforest.org

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DOG OWNERS



ASHDOWN FOREST INFORMATION SERIES

We welcome well behaved owners with their dogs on the Forest, and ask that certain guidelines are followed.



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DOG OWNERS

We love dogs at Ashdown Forest, and well behaved owners with their dogs are always welcome. Ashdown Forest is a very special place, it is an internationally recognised site for protecting rare and threatened species and heathland habitats and, just by existing, helps provide clean air and water. To make sure that everyone using the forest has a great time and the wildlife can thrive here we ask that you follow our Code of Conduct for dog owners.

DOGS AND WILDLIFE

Ashdown Forest is designated as a Special Protection Area, an international-level designation recognising the important populations of rare birds found here. Many of these, such as the Nightjar and Dartford Warbler are ground nesting and are particularly prone to disturbance which can lead to the loss of eggs, chicks or the nest being abandoned by the parents. For this reason please keep your dogs on the wide rides and paths and out of the sensitive heathland habitat.

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

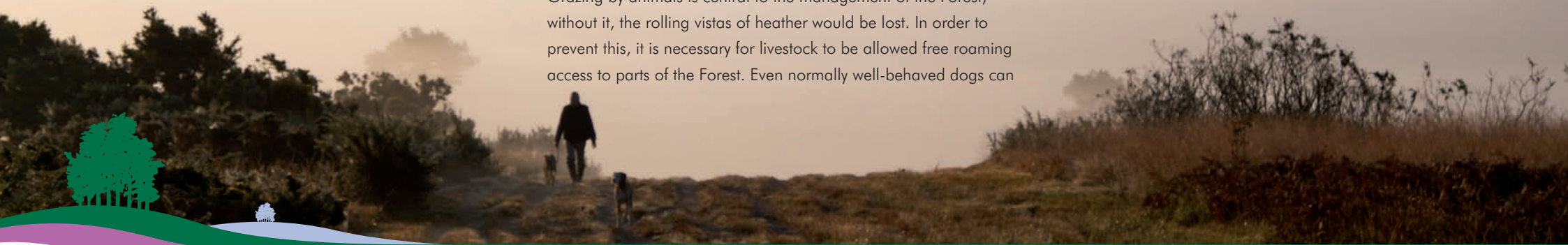
Grazing by animals is central to the management of the Forest; without it, the rolling vistas of heather would be lost. In order to prevent this, it is necessary for livestock to be allowed free roaming access to parts of the Forest. Even normally well-behaved dogs can

become excitable in the presence of farm animals, resulting in serious injury to livestock and dogs. You can check online or 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.

Dog waste can cause all kinds of trouble if left on the forest. It can make other people as well as our sheep, cattle and ponies unwell, its high nitrogen content enriches the soil which leads to grass growing instead of the heather and gorse which the Forest's wildlife depends upon to survive. We have a "leave-no-trace" policy on the Forest and have a limited number of dog bins, please carry bags and take your dog's waste away with you. If you find you have run out of bags you can purchase more in the Forest Centre shop



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 pick up your dog's waste.