



# Oversley Wood - a Forestry England update

## Vehicle access to Oversley Wood

From the end of November, Forestry England will be making changes to the way people access Oversley Wood, near Alcester.

After consultation with Highways England and neighbouring landowners, parking will no longer be permitted along the sides of the main track in front of the entrance gate into the woods. This is to ensure that emergency vehicles are always able to access the woodland in case of any accidents or fires. The increased popularity of the woods has led to too many cars trying to park in this small area. It is essential that emergency access is always available.

As well as blocking emergency access, this has also caused problems for large forestry machinery accessing the main gate. Oversley Wood is a working woodland, contributing to Forestry England's important role as the largest producer of sustainable timber in the country. Wood from our forests is part of our everyday lives and can be used to make anything from construction materials, to wood fuel and paper.

The woods will still be open for people visiting without a vehicle; either on foot, by bike, and on horseback, or who are able to park legally and responsibly elsewhere.

## Unauthorised mountain bike trails

Over recent months, a growing number of unauthorised mountain bike trails have been built without permission. Any construction without the landowner's consent is illegal and these trails can be hazardous to other forest users, as well as having negative ecological impact. We will be removing these trails to keep people safe and protect the environment.

Forestry England has supported off-road cycling for many years through our formal trail network. We intend to continue supporting a wide range of cycling in our nation's forests, but we need the public's help too. Help us protect the forest by only cycling on stone-surfaced forest roads, formal waymarked trails, and bridleways.

If you have any questions about the work being undertaken, please contact:

[westengland@forestryengland.uk](mailto:westengland@forestryengland.uk)