

## 30 March 2023

## **Oversley Wood Reopening**

This weekend, the access track and small parking area for Oversley Wood will reopen after the completion of winter harvesting operations. Forestry England has worked hard to ensure the woods will reopen in time for Easter, and we want to thank you for your patience.

Over the past few months, whilst there have been less people visiting the woods, we have seen a huge reduction of litter - which is great news for the natural environment.

Not only is litter unsightly, it can also damage soils, get into waterways and have an impact on the wildlife that call the forest home.

We are keen to reopen the access track to Oversley, as we know how important the woods are to local people. However, we will be keeping an eye on the litter levels, and if there is a significant increase we will be forced to consider future options for access into the woods. This could include the permanent closure of the access track.

Please help us by taking all of your litter home with you. This includes dog waste which is often left in bags by the gateway.

Whilst many of our woodlands have bins which we pay to install, empty, and maintain, we cannot do this at every location we manage. We have intentionally not placed a bin at Oversley due to operational constraints and we have no plans to do so in the future. It is up to visitors to take responsibility for their own litter.

With spring well on its way, help us make sure Oversley Wood remains the beautiful ancient woodland we all love to visit.

