



Nature
Conservation Agency
Republic of Latvia

Junior Ranger program Latvia

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Junior Rangers program

from 2004 (Gauja NP administration + NGO support)

Since 2009(Nature Conservation Agency responsibility + NGO support)

Since 2015 [second group in Kemeri National park](#)

Important !

- involving more than one employees
- System - (non) regularity
- Discipline in events
- Communication
- Safety
- Parental support



Involvement of participants

- Voluntary principles (not many interested)
- 12-17 years
- Information in schools of the National Park
- The best advertising is young people talking to classmates and friends



Success examples

- Night hiking in nature
- learning by doing
- Learning to teach others!
- International camp experience since 2008
- International Camp in Latvia /Gauja NP



Junior Ranger contribution

- careful attitude to nature
- Support for employees
- Promotion Nature conservation ideas among young people, family.
- Junior Rangers - energy distributors
- Participation in joint work and CLEEN ups
- Support in educational activities of NP visitors

Junior Ranger benefits

- Positive attitude to nature
- The initiative for further professions / study
- Education in the field of nature and local history
- Improving communication, cooperation skills
- Skills in team work
- Opportunities to participate in the camps
- Tourism skills - masp, ropes, tents.
- Boat riding skills
- Work experience
- friendship



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Junior Ranger in future

- **Our colleagues**
- **clever landowners**
- **leaders of society**
- **Heads or managers**
- **decision-makers**
- **politicians**
- **Businessmans**
- **Supporters**



It is not important, how many of the Junior Rangers, continue their studies and work in nature protection

More importantly, if these young people with sustainable thinking and ability to make responsible decisions, occupy influential position in various sectors of the economy of Latvia or EUROPE

More importantly, if these young people in the future will be able to offer environmental problem solutions, based on the principles of sustainability.



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How?

1. How to engage more Junior Rangers?
2. How to market JR-program both to youngsters and their parents?
3. How to work with (ex-)Junior Rangers who are over 18 years old?.
4. How to find Younger and really motivated mentor ?
5. How to open youth initiative?



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Gaujas National park Junior Rangers

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