



This Tree Planting project is run by the Faringdon Churches' **EARTH & FAITH** group, supported by **FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**. It is a local action against climate change, something we can all do to share our hopes for the future of the Earth.

The aim is to plant a lot of trees, starting in November 2021, to coincide with the [UN COP26 Climate](#) Conference in Glasgow.

## **TREES FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS / BUSINESSES**

This leaflet gives you useful information to help you make a start.

### **CONSULT AND PLAN**

Discuss with your members where you could plant trees, and always consult the local community before you go ahead. If you want to plant on a piece of land that you do not own, you will need to get the landowner's permission.

You could choose to plant in several neighbouring gardens. (If you are applying for FREE trees they might need to be in front gardens to provide benefit for the public.)

Different trees have different purposes and needs. Choose your species according to the land you have and what you want from your trees. There is advice on suitable trees from the Woodland Trust, or [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk) and specialist tree nurseries.

If you are planting woodland, leaving some open spaces will encourage different habitats and enhance biodiversity value. A glade is an ideal place for wildflowers, and shrubs around the edge will benefit species such as birds, butterflies and other pollinators.

### **BUYING TREES**

If you want to buy a single well-grown tree for a public space, or a series of trees for private back gardens, you can buy them at a local nursery or garden centre, or from the Woodland Trust. A tree can cost £20 and upwards.

Always check that the tree you buy has been sourced from Great Britain or Ireland, to avoid the risk of bringing tree diseases across international boundaries. Look for Plant Healthy certification, or the OHAS Grower Standard.

## TWO WAYS TO GET FREE TREES FOR A GROUP / BUSINESS

**1. The Woodland Trust** offers FREE trees to all kinds of different groups such as residents' associations, sports clubs, parish councils, scouts, guides and many more.

You don't need to belong to an official organisation. You could even set up a group for the purpose of planting, but you must be not-for-profit. **The most important thing is that your group is willing to take on the planning, planting and care of the saplings.**

The trees can be planted as copses, groves, avenues, shelter belts, hedgerows and many other ways. The amount of space you need will differ depending on how you plant your trees.

Some examples:

### Copse Pack

Plant a mini forest or a peaceful spot that's an oasis for birds. You will get 10 of each species for a small, tranquil copse.

- **Trees:** 30
- **Species:** silver birch, rowan, wild cherry
- **Size of land:** tennis court

### Urban Pack

- **Trees:** 15
- **Species:** crab apple, rowan, hazel
- **Size of land:** specially designed for very limited space,

The saplings are 20-60cm tall. This makes them easy to transport, easy to handle and easy to plant. Saplings this size also establish very quickly and can reach an adult's head height in around eight years. The saplings can also be self-supporting so they don't need increasingly large stakes to keep them secure.

The Woodland Trust is currently taking applications for FREE trees to be delivered in NOVEMBER 2021.

Phone: **0330 333 3300** or email: [enquiries@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodlandtrust.org.uk)

Or find the application form on the website:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities>

## **2. The Conservation Volunteers** have a similar scheme:

‘Are you part of a community group that would benefit from receiving **FREE** trees? Then we would love you to nominate them. We have 7,000 packs of 50 trees – **a total of 370,000 FREE trees!**’

APPLY NOW for FREE trees to be delivered in NOVEMBER 2021.

See the website for full details:

<https://www.tcv.org.uk>

### **PLANTING AND CARING FOR YOUR TREES**

Both the Woodland Trust and Conservation Volunteers give good advice on planting and after-care of your trees.

For the first 3 years after planting your tree will need:

Watering all through the year, and especially in dry weather.

Weeding to keep the soil clear around the trunk.

Protection from rabbits, deer and mowers – get a spiral guard supported by a cane, or a cage and stake for a larger tree. You can order these things when you order your tree.

To avoid mowing or accidental damage, make sure everyone involved in maintenance of the space knows where your trees have been planted.

## **BRANCH OUT WITH US IN 2021!**

We hope you will decide to plant some trees this winter, for Faringdon and for the planet, and that they will enhance the life of your group and the local area.

**We’d love to hear from you** so we can see how the project is going. Tell us your plans or send us your comments or questions using one of the contact forms on the [Faringdon Branches Out web page](#)

**Thank you!**